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HARVEST MOON

MARK FARMER

Last week's Harvest Moon over the Pacific Ocean and Bird Island. Harvest Moon is referred as such because it keeps the fields bright, allowing farmers to continue harvesting crops well into the night.

FOR NOV. 8 GENERAL ELECTIONS

Record 19,272 registered voters

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

As of yesterday, there was an overall total of 19,272 voters in the CNMI, assuring this Nov. 8 general elections will have the highest number of registered voters in the Commonwealth's history.

» **176 beat Friday's deadline to register to vote this Nov. 8 general elections**
» **Precinct 1 still has the highest number of registered voters with 5,153**



Sablan

Commonwealth Election Commission acting executive director Robin N. Sablan disclosed yesterday that 176 registered to vote Friday, which was the deadline to register.

This brings to a total of 19,272 registered voters for this year's election, surpassing the 18,914 that was recorded during the 2018 elections.

See RECORD on Page 4

Torres: Maximum penalty to anyone robbing tourists

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Friday that with the gradual increase of tourists coming to the CNMI, the Department of Public Safety

» **Asks DPS, MVA to continue monitoring tourist spots to protect visitors**
» **Urges the community to treat tourists with highest respect**

and the Marianas Visitors Authority should continue monitoring the islands' tourist sites to protect visitors from robbers.

In response to a question during
See TORRES on Page 4

First Fiesta Fridays held on NMI Museum grounds

By **LEIGH GASES**
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CORRESPONDENT

On the first of many Friday nights to come, the inaugural Fiesta Fridays was held last week at the NMI
See FIESTA on Page 4

LEIGH GASES

NMI Museum director Daniel Aquino Jr. delivers his welcome remarks during the first night of Fiesta Fridays last week on the grounds of the NMI Museum.

SEE PHOTO GALLERY on Page 6



INSIDE



BUSINESS

Majority of adults in the U.S. say that health care is not handled well in the country.

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ASIA

The death toll from a major earthquake in western China rose to 93.

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OVERDRIVE

The 2024 Ford Mustang Figures to be a headliner for the 2022 Detroit Auto Show when it debuts Sept. 14.

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Local



THE DOCTOR IS IN

Hardt Eye Clinic's Dr. David Hardt talked about eye disease, prevention, and treatment during last week's Rotary Club of Saipan lunch meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. From left are Rotary officers Mario Valentino, Irene Holl, Hardt, Wendell Posadas, Jessy Loomis, Joann Aquino, and Charles Cepeda.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First case of Monkeypox in Guam confirmed

HAGATNA, Guam—The Office of the Governor and the Department of Public Health and Social Services have been notified of the first case of Monkeypox on Guam, imported by an incoming traveler. Confirmation of the individual's illness was made by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Sept. 11, 2022. The individual, whose name will not be released to preserve their privacy, arrived on Guam on Sept. 10, 2022. The traveler is cooperative and remains in isolation. The individual indicated they do not need medical attention and is being monitored for any changes in their condition. DPHSS staff will confer with the individual's healthcare provider to confirm the onset date of symptoms to calculate the appropriate isolation period. Once the onset date of symptoms is confirmed, DPHSS staff will calculate the isolation period and inform the individual of the end date of isolation to protect the public from the risk of infection. DPHSS has further launched a case investigation to identify and notify any possible close contacts.

"Upon notification of a confirmed imported case of Monkeypox, the Department of Public Health and Social Services team, led by Chima Mbakwem, engaged quickly into action to locate the individual and place the individual under surveillance. The traveler is properly isolated and does not pose a danger to the local community," said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. "All parties are cooperative, and we ask that the public stay aware and informed on the signs and symptoms of Monkeypox. Our administration continues to keep alert of the evolving global situation, as we closely monitor transmission trends to bolster our state of readiness and response."

According to the CDC, Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. Monkeypox virus is part of the same family of viruses as the variola virus, the virus that causes smallpox. Monkeypox symptoms are similar to smallpox but milder, and monkeypox is rarely fatal. Monkeypox is not related to chickenpox.

Monkeypox symptoms

People with monkeypox get a rash that may be located on or near the genitals or anus and could

be on other areas like the hands, feet, chest, face, or mouth.

■ The rash will go through

several stages, including scabs, before healing.

■ The rash can initially look like pimples or blisters and may be painful or itchy.

■ Other symptoms of monkeypox can include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Exhaustion
- Muscle aches and backache
- Headache
- Respiratory symptoms (e.g. sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough)

You may experience all or only a few symptoms:

■ Sometimes, people have flu-like symptoms before the rash.

■ Some people get a rash first, followed by other symptoms.

■ Others only experience a rash.

Monkeypox can spread to anyone through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact, including:

■ Direct contact with monkeypox rash, scabs, or body fluids from a person with Monkeypox.

■ Touching objects, fabrics (clothing, bedding, or towels), and surfaces used by someone with monkeypox.

■ Contact with respiratory secretions.

This direct contact can happen during intimate contact. A person with monkeypox can spread it to others from the time symptoms start until the rash has fully healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks.

When to get tested

■ Currently, testing is only recommended if you have a rash consistent with monkeypox.

■ If you think you have monkeypox or have had close personal contact with someone who

has monkeypox, consider taking precautions and visit a healthcare provider to help you decide if you need to be tested for monkeypox.

Where to get tested

■ Only a healthcare provider can order a monkeypox test. The healthcare provider may take a specimen and send it to a lab for testing or they may send you to a lab for both specimen collection and testing.

■ Contact your health care provider for medical questions. If you do not have health insurance, contact the Guam Community Health Center at 671-635-7525/6 to find out what your testing options are. (PR)

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Our Platforms



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FB Stories (Poll, Swipe Up)
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**For more advertising opportunities,
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Ada: Opening of schools went smoothly

By FAHIM UDDIN

fahimuddin489@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada is impressed on how all schools are starting off the first couple of weeks of School Year 2022-2023.

“The opening of schools went smoothly,” he said.

He also points to the new software that all Public School System faculty members and staff are looking forward to using, as he believes it provides more security and functionality.

PSS is changing the database system from Admin-Plus to Infinite Campus. The new software is to improve efficiency and tighten and secure student information, according to Ada.

Ada said it's also all systems go for the Office of Pupil Transportation and its 50 buses and vans.

This current school year, face masks are also optional at all PSS campuses.

However, PSS “highly

encourages” its stakeholder-teachers, staff, students, and parents-to consider their personal level of risk when deciding on mask-wearing.

In a recent memorandum, Ada said that effective SY 2022-2023, the wearing of face masks will no longer be mandated. “Together as one system” we have worked hard to mitigate the COVID-19 situation in our school communities,” he said.



Ada

The PSS chief, however, assured that PSS will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation in the community and will keep everyone updated as circumstances change.

He cited several positive achievements at PSS, including the system's high vaccination rate against COVID-19.

“Last school year, we launched a strong vaccination campaign and we are

pleased to report that all our school and department are now at a 90%-plus vaccination rate. In collaboration with our local health partners, we were able to open up opportunities for testing

and vaccination at our school sites and Central Office on a quarterly basis. We have four school nurses and 15 school monitoring and outreach specialists on board and have

the necessary equipment and resources to directly assist with mitigating the spread of COVID-19 on campus.”

With the latest update from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. indicating that the CNMI is in Community Level Low, the wearing of face masks is now optional for all employees and students while on PSS premises until further notice.

“However, we highly encourage our stakeholders to consider their personal level

of risk when deciding on mask-wearing.”

He assured that PSS will continue to revisit its health protocols and make decisions in the best interest of students.

Overall, Ada does his best to be more involved throughout the school by visiting every PSS school to understand

their procedure.

“I try to visit the schools at least one school a day on my way to my office. Keeping in touch with the principals, having that one-to-one conversation. In addition to my school visit, I make it a point that I visit a class to talk with students and teachers. It's a

golden moment, every time. Being visible at the school keeps me grounded.”

“The State Board of Education and myself are very proud of the faculty and staff of the CNMI Public School System. We are a purposeful community of teaching and learners,” he added.



TRAFFIC LIGHTS PROJECT

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Rain or shine, Filipino and Chinese workers of USA Fanter Corp. Ltd. apply the finishing touches Wednesday to the center island of the traffic lights project at the accident-prone intersection of Beach Road and Quartermaster Road in Chalan Laulau. Workers are expected to start by this week installing a new asphalt surface at the intersection. The \$1.94-million project, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, broke ground on June 10, 2021.

Chamber gubernatorial debate set for Sept. 29

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host the 2022 Gubernatorial Candidate Debate for the CNMI Gubernatorial Candidates on Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022.

The Gubernatorial Candidate Debate will take place at Saipan World Resort, Taga Hall, from 6pm to 8pm. Gove. Ralph DLG Torres, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, and Rep. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan) have been invited to participate in the 2022 gubernatorial debate.

These forums are offered in the effort to further educate voters on the issues of our island by presenting the opportunity to hear differing opinions and solutions, and for those who are unfamiliar with the various platforms of each candidate.

Each candidate will be given equal time to answer questions submitted in advance by the general public. Time limits will be enforced fairly and equally in accordance with standard debate procedures. Additional details will be advertised as the event nears. The Chamber welcomes the community's input regarding current issues and future needs.

The Chamber is also seeking for volunteers to assist with the event. Duties include but are not limited to event set up, traffic control usher, guest sign in, and event usher. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact us at (670) 234-7150

or email at coordinator2@saipanchamber.com.

The Chamber is a non-profit organization with over 130 members to date. The SCC was founded in 1959 and incorporated in 1976. It is the largest private business organization in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Chamber works to promote and protect the busi-

ness, economic, and civic interest, and general health and welfare of our islands. If you would like more information about our event or our organization, please visit our office located at the Marianas Business Plaza, 4th Floor, Suite 413 or contact our office at (670) 234-7150, or email coordinator2@saipanchamber.com. (PR)

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: Civil Action No.: 22-0200-CV
BASILIO CABRERA BLAS, Decedent.
NOTICE OF HEARING
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO: ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF: BASILIO CABRERA BLAS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the petition of Theresa Lieto Blas for the issuance of letters of administration will be heard before the Honorable Joseph N. Camacho, Associate Judge, on the 6th day of October, 2022, at 10:00 a.m./p.m., at Room 220A, Superior Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, Susupe Village, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

For further particulars, please refer to the Petition on file herein, or contact counsel for Petitioner, Joey P. San Nicolas, P.O. Box 10,001 PMB 602, Saipan, MP 96950; telephone (670) 234-7659 and email jpsn@sannicolaslaw.net.

Pursuant to Rule 11, NMI R. Prob. P., notice is hereby given to all creditors of the decedent, BASILIO CABRERA BLAS, or of his estate, that they must file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or the claims will be forever barred.

Dated this 1st day of September, 2022.

/s/ Hon. JOSEPH N. CAMACHO
Associate Judge

MICHAEL N. EVANGELISTA, ESQ.
(CNMI Bar No. F0364)
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Attorney for Petitioner Tracy Babauta Norita

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: CIVIL ACTION NO. 22-0210
PETRA DELOS REYES BABAUTA, Deceased.
NOTICE OF HEARING and NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC, CREDITORS, AND INTERESTED CLAIMANTS OF THE DECEDENT OF HER ESTATE

NOTICE is hereby given that Tracy Babauta Norita, of Saipan, CNMI, has filed a petition in the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Probate of Will, Letters of Testamentary, and to be appointed Executrix of the Estate of Petra Delos Reyes Babauta, deceased. The attorney of record is Michael N. Evangelista, Esq., P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950. The hearing on the petition is set for the 6th day of October, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., before the Honorable Joseph N. Camacho, Associate Judge, in Courtroom No. 220A of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the House of Justice - Guma Hustisia - Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, Saipan CNMI. All interested persons should appear at this hearing.

All persons having any claims against the decedent or her estate are required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this notice, or the claim(s) shall be forever barred. A copy of such claim should be provided to Michael N. Evangelista, Esq., at the above indicated address.

Dated this 8th of September, 2022.

Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-22-040

A-16 Sewer Lift Station Generator Replacement

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the A-16 Sewer Lift Station Generator Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary for the removal of the existing A-16 Sewer Lift Station 350 KW Generator and Automatic Transfer Switch, procurement of a new 350 KW generator and Automatic Transfer Switch, modification of the existing concrete generator pad to match the new pad size requirement (if needed), restoration of the existing oil containment berm, repair of exhaust & muffler, and equipment start-up and commissioning. The work shall be done in accordance with the Scope of Work and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the sewer system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **September 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-22-040, A-16 Sewer Lift Station Generator Replacement" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 13, 2022, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of One Hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The payment and Performance bonds must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 23, 2022** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address nicole.villagomez@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, P&S, Purchasing Technician Senior via email, marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Kilili: NMC awarded \$952,394 grant for its SBDC

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) disclosed Saturday that the U.S. Small Business Administra-

tion confirmed with his office that it awarded a \$952,394 grant to the Northern Marianas College's Small

Business Development Center to support its small business incubator program.

Sablan in his e-kilili newsletter said the funding is an earmark that he secured in the Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law 117-103).

He said the funds are intended to provide existing and aspiring business owners rental space and other resources they need to start new ventures and create jobs in the Marianas.

Sablan had nine of his requests for community projects for the Marianas—worth \$4.52 million—included in the federal spending bill for

fiscal year 2022. The \$952,393 grant for the innovation incubator at NMC is included in that nine requests.

This week's grant award, the delegate said, comes in addition to the \$659,990 renewable grant the SBDC received from the SBA in March following the enactment of his Small Business Development Act last year.

Previously, the development center at NMC was not eligible for Lead Center funding, as it was just a sub-office of Guam.

Sablan's legislation gave the Marianas its own Lead Center. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



Sablan

Joint Region Marianas hosts 10th Annual Programmatic Agreement Workshop

ASAN, Guam—Joint Region Marianas (JRM) hosted the 10th Annual 2011 Programmatic Agreement (PA) Workshop at the Sen. Antonio M. Palomo Guam Museum and Education Facility in Hagåtña Sept. 8-9.

The workshop was an opportunity for all PA signatories to evaluate important achievements, assign tasks and review outstanding requirements since the signing of the 2011 PA.

Rear Adm. Benjamin Nicholson, commander Joint Region Marianas, provided opening remarks which emphasized the significance of these collaborative discussions between the military, signatories and stakeholders.

"We are fully cognizant of the fact that these are important decisions made here that will have positive and lasting impressions on the island and region for generations to come," he said. "These workshops are not always easy, and we understand the cultural sensitivities of our work here in Guam. However, the challenging conversations that have been brought to the table are important to improve our processes because it is through these productive conversations that we have, and will continue to preserve and protect the cultural resources of the island in the Marine Corps realignment," added Nicholson.

During the two-day workshop, participating parties focused on best ways to preserve, protect and learn from Guam's cultural resources, and toured historic sites on Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz (MCBCB) and the

cultural repository at the University of Guam.

Several topics were presented during the workshop including updates on archaeological work completed at military construction sites, National Register Nominations, future public outreach projects, and natural and cultural resources management.

The Department of Defense and the Guam State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) continue to work together for the benefit of historic preservation. The annual PA Workshop allows parties to communicate effectively, work together, assess archaeological evidence, and come to agreeable solutions as discoveries and other challenges arise. This year, the decision was made to make this information available to the public.

"The annual workshop is specifically intended for the signatories, however, in the spirit of transparency we agreed that there is genuine benefit to the 2011 PA and to the people of Guam in making this information available to the community," said Nicholson.

Organizers of the annual workshop shared an online link with stakeholder groups and members of the public who were interested in observing the discussion. Additionally, JRM and MCBCB invited members of the media to a briefing and a tour of culturally significant sites on MCBCB.

"We care about maintaining open and transparent communications with the people of Guam and mem-

bers of the media," said Nicholson. "We are extremely grateful and appreciative of the support that we receive from our community as we continue our mission in the defense of the homeland." Therefore it is vital that we allow the public and media to see firsthand the progress being made to protect and preserve artifacts and cultural resources," said Nicholson.

Looking ahead, the Navy and Marine Corps will collaborate with the SHPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) to codify the parameters of access and to improve processes.

The annual workshop is held to share important updates in accordance with requirements to protect and preserve cultural resources in Guam and the CNMI, and to enhance communication among the Department of Defense (DoD), historic partners and signatories to the 2011 PA.

The workshop was attended by representatives from Joint Region Marianas, the government of Guam, the Guam State Historic Preservation office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Marianas, and NAVFAC Pacific, among others.

Additional information can be located at the Cultural Resources Information website at: https://www.navfac.navy.mil/navfac_worldwide/pacific/about_us/cultural_resources.html. **(PR)**

TORRES

From Page 1

the KKMP press briefing, Torres said people caught robbing or hurting tourists should be given the maximum penalty.

"I asked our community to please first don't do any robbing, don't do any assault and battery," he said.

Police recently arrested a habitual offender who allegedly robbed two tourists in Marpi last Aug. 29. Responding police officers noted that a female victim was in tears as she got out of their rented vehicle, while the male victim was in shock after the robbery.

Torres urged the people to treat tourists with the highest respect.

Torres said he asked DPS to continue patrolling the tourist sites and MVA to post security guards at the tourist spots.

"At the end of the day, tourism is



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The Saipan sign in Marpi has become an iconic landmark for tourists and local alike. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres wants people caught robbing or hurting tourists should be given the maximum penalty.

everybody's business. We should all treat our tourists with the highest respect and definitely not by robbing and not by hurting anyone," he said.

The governor urged anyone in the

community that if they see somebody robbing a tourist, they should report the matter immediately to the police or the right agency so that they do the right thing.

with 5,153.

Precinct 1 covers San Antonio, San Vicente, Dandan, parts of Finasisu, Koblerville, as Lito, parts of As Perdido, Chalan Piao, Afetnas, and As Gonno.

Precinct 3 has 4,087 registered voters, Precinct 5 has 2,975, Precinct 4 has 1,752, and Precinct 2 has 1,590.

The Northern Islands has 184 registered voters. Precinct 7 or Rota has 1,851 registered voters, while Precinct 6 or Tinian has 1,680.

Meanwhile, CEC has started accepting requests for absentee ballots since last Aug. 25. The deadline for application for absentee voting by electronic/mail is Oct. 14.

RECORD

From Page 1

Sablan said during the 2020 general elections, there were 18,537 registered voters.

CEC's record shows that on Saipan, Precinct 1 still has the biggest number of registered voters

Leon Guerrero-Tenorio admin to kick-off Swamp Road Resurfacing

HAGATNA, Guam—The Leon Guerrero-Tenorio Administration and the Department of Public Works (DPW) are proud to announce the launch of the Swamp Road Resurfacing Project today, Sept. 13, 2022. The DPW contractor will begin milling and paving at the Ysengsong intersection and continue westward. Intermittent lane closures are expected.

"As part of our islandwide highway resurfacing initiative, our administration is proud to extend road improvements to the residents of Swamp Road and the people of Dededo," said Lou Leon Guerrero. "As we continue to lay the foundation of more prosperous days to come, this latest resurfacing project builds on the infrastructural enhancements we are making not only to village roads, but also to gyms, parks, sporting

fields, and housing developments."

"From major highways like Marine Corps Drive to smaller community streets such as Swamp Road, we remain dedicated to driving forth real progress our people can see and feel," said Lt.

Gov. Josh Tenorio. "With many islandwide projects completed or underway, we stand committed to ensuring our investments and initiatives capture a higher quality of life for all."

Area residents and motorists are advised to drive cautiously through the construction zones, observe posted speed limit and construction signs, and carefully heed flaggers when present.

Alternate routes and/or adjusted drive times are encouraged if and when feasible. **(PR)**

FIESTA

From Page 1

Museum grounds which welcomed a crowd of over 400 people.

There were a total of 13 vendors which included V Lynn's BBQ, Mini Thai Catering, APU, Abegnales, Chowtime, Heavenly Bites, RJ's Pizza, Tyler's Gelatte Stone, Island Shave Ice 4 U, Hybrid Shop, Islandry670, Aofia's, Lalofa Lava-Flowerpot Creations, Magpag Inc., and COVID-19 Care Force, which gave out COVID-19 test kits and free water.

Fiesta Fridays will take place at the NMI Museum grounds every Friday thereafter from 5:30pm to 9:30pm.

Throughout the night, there were performances by Zumba group M2 Fitness, Ray Peter, and Petlas Marianas.

For the night's welcome remarks by NMI Museum director Daniel Aquino Jr., he said "I want to just say thank you from the bottom of my heart. We anticipated a crowd, but we didn't think that it would be this big. And I just want to personally thank everybody for coming out, taking their time to support the museum. And always remember that these events are for you guys."

He then thanked M2 Fitness for donating \$2,000 to the NMI Museum.

Kimberly Edquiba Iabeta, a kindergarten teacher from Koblerville Elementary School, was seen at the grounds with her family and was asked her thoughts of the event.

"For me, the location is convenient. I can just walk here. It's walking distance from where I live, but I think parking is a problem. It's hard for people to find parking and there's always traffic in this area when there's events here. That's the only problem."

But she added that "it's good that it will be every Friday and that there should be more vendors."

In a separate interview with Archie Ajoste, a guide at the museum, he said "there will be bouncy houses for the kids, performances, and great food. In the near future, we will incorporate lipsyncing, karaoke, and battle of the bands competition. Who knows, maybe one of the Fridays, we might [collaborate] with others to get famous singers or dancers to perform."

Ajoste went on to thank Dave Electronics for the sponsorship of the truss stage and LED lighting for the stage and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Bureau of Environmental Health Sanitation, and Department of Public Safety for making the event possible.

"Without them, we might [have] postponed having to start Fiesta Fridays. Thanking all the vendors, Marianas Inflatables for the bouncy houses, the performers and emcees. And also thanks especially [to] the people who came out to support the museum."

He also said "more entertainment and more vendors will be joining next Friday."

We Will Never Forget: **FIELD OF HEROES**

2022

21st Anniversary of September 11th

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We would like to thank all the attendees and participants for the 2022 Field of Heroes

Proclamation Signing on Thursday, September 8, 2022, hosted by the Transportation Security Administration at Saipan International Airport; and the "9/11- We Will Never Forget Motorcade" on Saturday, September 10, 2022, Saipan.

We would like to invite you to the upcoming "9/11- We Will Never Forget Ceremony" on Thursday, September 18 at 230 pm, Veterans Memorial Park, Tinian; and on Monday, September 19 at 10 am, Corporal Joe G. Charfauros Jr. Rota Veterans Memorial Park. The Field of Heroes Flags will continue to be posted until September 30, 2022 at the American Memorial Park on Saipan, Veterans Memorial Park on Tinian and at Corporal Joe G. Charfauros Jr. Rota Veterans Memorial Park.

To all our Community Heroes, we thank you, we honor you and we remember.

Inaugural Fiesta Friday at the NMI Museum

PHOTOS By LEIGH GASES



M2 Fitness Zumba group hands over a check worth \$2,000 to NMI Museum director Dan Aquino during the inaugural Fiesta Friday last week.



▲ Petlas Marianas gives a traditional performance during the inaugural Fiesta Fridays at the NMI Museum grounds.



➤ M2 Fitness Zumba group is seen performing on stage during the inaugural Fiesta Fridays last week at the NMI Museum grounds.



Kid's bouncy houses and families are seen at the NMI Museum grounds last week in the inaugural Fiesta Fridays.



An APU restaurant staff is seen preparing a takeout box last Friday in the NMI Museum grounds for the inaugural Fiesta Fridays.



People line up in front of Lyns BBQ booth in the NMI Museum grounds last week for the inaugural Fiesta Fridays.



Food and small business booths and people are seen lined up at the NMI Museum grounds during the inaugural Fiesta Fridays last week.



A line is seen at the Isla Shaved Ice booth at the NMI Museum grounds during the inaugural Fiesta Friday last week.



A vendor sears a tortilla in their Beef Shawarma booth last Friday at the NMI Museum grounds for the inaugural Fiesta Fridays.



People are seen around the NMI Museum grounds during the inaugural Fiesta Fridays last week.

UOG graduate students publish research on Guam's upside-down jellyfish populations

A new study by University of Guam researchers has found that two populations of upside-down jellyfish (*Cassiopea ornata*) found in Guam waters have different appearances not because they are different species, but because of their environments.

The study, which was funded by the university's National Science Foundation EPSCoR grant, was published in May in *Zoomorphology*, a peer-reviewed journal that focuses on the form and structure of invertebrates and vertebrates.

The study involved examining two upside-down jellyfish populations in Cocos Lagoon and Piti Channel. Because both populations were different in size, color, and shape, the researchers initially thought they were two different species.

"Upon doing a little genetic work, we determined that they were the same species. So instead of it being species-level morphology differences, we determined that it was environment-level morphology

differences," said lead author Colin J. Anthony, a UOG graduate student studying biology under Professor Bastian Bentlage. "The environments we pulled them from are very different. Cocos Lagoon has turbid, sediment-laden water, and the water in Piti Channel is very clear."

According to the study, it may be possible that these different environments affect the way these jellyfish acquire sustenance.

Upside-down jellyfish spend most of their time with their bells resting on the seafloor of shallow, coastal waters. By lying upside down, the jellyfish expose the photosymbiotic algae living inside their arms toward the sun and can then sustain themselves off the byproducts of the algae and capture zooplankton for additional energy to grow.

Photosymbiosis is a type of symbiotic relationship between two organisms in which one organism is capable of photosynthesis.

"If they're in a little more turbid or muddy water, they may rely more on their hunting skills and releasing their stinging

structures and using heterotrophy to feed versus if they're in clearer water, they would use more photosynthetic capabilities," said co-author MacKenzie Heagy, a UOG graduate student studying biology under Professor Tom Schils.

Studying upside-down jellyfish is important for several reasons: Because they are close relatives of corals, which also share the same bond with photosymbiotic algae, upside-down jellyfish are being used as a model to study corals without having to harm coral populations.

Upside-down jellyfish can



Anthony



Heagy

also serve as environmental indicators for nutrient pollution and

microplastics. Additionally, some species are considered invasive, with the potential to impact the use of waterways when congregating in large numbers.

A community effort

Locating the Cocos Lagoon population was achieved by UOG Marine Technician II Johnathan A. Perez, who grew up seeing them at his aunt's house in Malesso.

"The only way we found the populations is through people who have lived here their whole lives," Anthony said. "They knew they were here, but they hadn't been scientifically documented. We owe finding these populations to our friends who helped us and grew up here."

Heagy said that she is grateful for being able to study in an environment that has been encouraging when it comes to conducting research.

"This is the perfect place

to do this work," Heagy said. "There are so many resources and we're so lucky to be here. Guam gives you so many resources and so many questions

to ask and so many things to think about. The Marine Laboratory and EPSCoR have given us so many opportunities to ask questions." (PR)



UOG

An upside-down jellyfish found in Guam's waters. A new study by University of Guam graduate students has found that differences in upside-down jellyfish populations found in Guam waters may be environmentally driven.



UOG

An upside-down jellyfish exposes the photosymbiotic algae living inside its arms toward the sun. Upside-down jellyfish spend most of their time with their bells resting on the seafloor of shallow, coastal waters and use the symbiotic relationship with algae to obtain food.

UOG welcomes new SBPA dean

Fred R. Schumann, who holds a doctorate in Asia Pacific studies and has held various academic and management roles in the University of Guam's School of Business and Public Administration for decades, is the new dean of SBPA.



Schumann

Schumann was most recently a professor of global resources management. He taught courses in international tourism, policy, planning and development, and other tourism-related courses in the university's business program. He also served as the lead faculty of UOG's international tourism and hospitality management program and as a graduate faculty member in the professional MBA program.

UOG president Thomas W. Krise described Schumann as an asset to the local university.

"Fred R. Schumann is well-positioned to lead the School of Business and Public Administration and strengthen its position as the bedrock of higher education for Guam's professional workforce in the public and private sectors. His new role comes as the economic landscape on the island and in the Western Pacific region changes and trends shift in the tourism industry. His background in academics and in business will be valuable as the university adapts and prepares for the changes," Krise said.

Schumann described some of his goals: "The first is to raise awareness of the university's land-grant mission and the role of the School of Business and Public Administration to support this among faculty, students, and the community.

Following this will be to help position to contribute to the university's overall mission and Para Hulo Strategic Plan most effectively. Supporting faculty development, student recruiting and retention, and establishing/maintaining strong connections with private and public organizations will be important factors to achieve these goals."

Schumann holds a bachelor's degree from the Western State College in Colorado, a master's degree from the Uni-

versity of Oregon, and a doctorate from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan. He has participated in various tourism-related economic revitalization projects with UOG's Pacific Center for Economic Initiatives and has initiated small business/entrepreneurial research projects and sustainable business/workforce development projects with the UOG's Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation and the Center for Island Sustainability.

Schumann's new role took effect Sept. 12 and follows the recent retirement of Annette Tajeron Santos, who served as dean of SBPA between June 2013 and July 2022. (PR)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Dina Ubaldo Regua | FCD-DI
Petitioner, | CIVIL ACTION
 | NO. 22-0274
vs. |
 | SUMMONS FOR
Julian R. Bagsit Jr. | PUBLICATION
Respondent. |
 |

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 8186 SVRB Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgment by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 12th day of August 2022.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

Carrie Mae Camacho, Pro se
P.O. Box 501345 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
670-789-5583

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DIANA TAITANO CAMACHO, Deceased, by CARRIE MAE CAMACHO, Petitioner. • CIVIL ACTION • NO. 22-0213-CV • NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS •

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for Letters of Administration seeking appointment of DIANA TAITANO CAMACHO as Administrator of the Estate of DIANA TAITANO CAMACHO (Deceased), was filed in the above-entitled Court. A hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held in Courtroom of Judge Joseph N. Camacho of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the House of Justice-Guma Hustisia-Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands at 10:00 a.m. on the 6th of October 2022.

All persons having any objection to the petition or having a claim against the Estate or against the deceased, should file their claim with the Clerk of Court of the Commonwealth Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice.

DATED this 8th day of September, 2022.

/s/ Clerk of Court



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS CUC-RSQ-22-037

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR CUC'S SUSTAINABLE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (SWIMS) PROGRAM

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting Statement of Qualifications from qualified firms for Program Management Services for CUC's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) program. This is a comprehensive planning, investigation, design, construction and operations approach to manage Non-Revenue Water and the delivery of safe and affordable drinking water to the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). All work is subject to grantors approval.

The RSQ package will be provided via email to the registered email ID upon completion of registration at the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the RSQ must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RSQ 22-037, Request for Statement of Qualifications for Program Management Services for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) Program" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 11, 2022**. Statements of Qualifications mailed via postal or courier service must be received or postmarked on or before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A&E firms are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the A&E firms due to a lack of information or understanding of the RSQ requirements in the course of the Consultant's preparation of an SOQ under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible/qualified A&E firms who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible to being selected for the award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. A&E firms shall be accorded fair and equal during discussions; there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

This RSQ does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of statements of qualifications in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC procurement regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable federal regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 20, 2022**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Larry Manacop, CUC Acting Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email address larry.manacop@cucgov.org, and Christie Sablan, Administrative Technician Senior via email address, christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all Statement of Qualifications for any reason and to waive any defects in said RSQ, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All Statement of Qualifications shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Our schools have problems. Bathrooms aren't among them

Like Republicans in other states, Florida lawmakers claim that public education's main problem is not a shortage of teachers and bus drivers or helping students who fell behind during the pandemic. No, the problem is school districts forcing an LGBTQ agenda on children and parents.

The Legislature passed the so-called "don't say gay" bill (HB 1557) to address that imaginary problem. A similar law (HB 7) prohibits teachers from discussing race while mentioning racism. No evidence supported either bill. They are more contrived grievances—the fuel of Republican campaigns.

state Rep. Randy Fine, R-Palm Bay, didn't stop when the session ended. He remains unburdened by facts.

The lawmaker sent a letter Aug. 11 to Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, asking the department to investigate "an alleged sexual assault between a 'transgender girl' and another girl" at Johnson Middle School in Melbourne. Fine said the attack occurred in a bathroom.

The attacker, Fine claimed, had been "taking advantage of the open bathrooms policy" advocated by Brevard School Board members Misty Belford and Jennifer Jenkins. Fine has feuded with both board members, especially over their support for a mask requirement. Fine has called Jenkins a "whore."

School district officials denied the claims. There was no record of a complaint. Fine said only that "multiple parents" had approached him.

Several days ago, after a three-week investigation, Melbourne Police said it found "no evidence" to support Fine's assault claim. Rather than acknowledge that he was wrong, Fine pivoted.

His letter, Fine claimed in an email exchange with the Sun Sentinel Editorial Board, "exposed a cover-up of a 'transgender' sexual assault."

How can there be a cover-up of an incident that didn't happen?

Fine then stated that the parents "had the wrong school." The "sexual assault," he said, happened at Space Coast High School.

Fine added, "That's what happens when parents ask questions to their school district about a 'transgender' sexual assault they've heard about, the bureaucrats refuse to tell them anything, and parents start talking to each other."

False on two counts

But that second "sexual assault" claim also is false. Sheriff's investigators found insufficient evidence for criminal charges related to the incident at the high school.

Ideally, Melbourne Police would bill Fine for the wasted three weeks. His 2019 financial disclosure showed a net worth of \$24 million. He can afford it.

See **SCHOOLS** on Next Page



Two decades after 9/11, a height of national solidarity, how did we become so divided?

FORT WORTH, Texas—This time of year always gets to me. When American flags begin adorning businesses and government buildings, and (to a lesser degree) private residences, the memories of that day—now 21 years ago—come flooding back.

I was in college when 9/11 happened.

Because widespread use of the smartphone was still something of fantasy, I entered my first class of the morning unaware of what was unfolding several hundred miles away.

After we watched the smoldering ashes of the World Trade Center on the classroom TV for a few minutes, the professor dismissed us. I walked onto the grass outside the government department building and sat down, the sense of shock and vulnerability had seemingly caused my knees to buckle.

Later that day, I huddled before the TV in the small student lounge of my dormitory with my fellow students to watch the news, mostly in silence.

And that evening, I joined the rest of campus for a candlelight vigil. I think we sang a hymn, "O, God Our Help in Ages Past," which, despite being overtly Christian, was not met with any consternation even at my public university.

Those early days after the attacks were fearful and uncertain: Our nation was grappling not only with the tremendous loss of life but also with the loss of our sense of security.

We were reluctant to fly and hesitant to gather in large groups.

But we trusted our institutions to hold and we looked to our elected leaders to bring us together and guide us through the mire.

And for the most part, they came through; even voter approval of Congress soared in the months immediately following.

Say what you might about the presidency of George W. Bush, but when he threw out the first pitch at Game 3 of the World Series in Yankee Stadium, the sense of national unity was palpable; the sense of faith in American resilience profound.

It's hard to believe that was just over two decades ago. In comparison, the political environment in which we currently dwell is unrecognizable.

Today, leaders on the right and the left are consumed with contempt for their political opponents and determined to foment antipathy among their supporters.

Instead of soaring speeches about the need for us to come together against a common enemy, we have national addresses in which large swaths of the population are identified as the enemy.

Instead of calls to protect religious and ethnic minorities, to confront racism and prejudice seriously and soberly, our gov-

By **CYNTHIA M. ALLEN**
Fort Worth Star-Telegram



Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.

ernment now seeks to squelch religious freedoms and demonize people of faith.

We once agreed on what violence is and is not because we witnessed an attempt to destroy our nation.

Now, our elite political class ignores skyrocketing crime and obsesses over microaggressions and misgendering.

The divides run deep.

Mayors and governors bicker like children, each seeking to appeal only to their political base. Whatever is necessary to win the next election.

Nationwide controversies trickle down into our local politics—city councils and school boards—the rhetoric ever intensifying, often pitting neighbor against neighbor.

Social media doesn't help. Neither does the national media in many cases, which often seems to relish in magnifying the worst of humanity.

It's no wonder that faith in our institutions is at an all-time low—from Congress to public schools to organized religion and even the medical system.

Our systems have failed us before, but today, there appears to be little hope that our systems are worth recovering, little faith that they were designed to serve the greater good.

Consider how fleeting was our national solidarity in the face of the COVID pandemic.

It's easy, of course, in hindsight to view the national response to 9/11 with rose-colored glasses, to recall falsely that it was without its share of strife and controversy.

Support for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan would eventually fade, for good reasons and bad. But our national character didn't seem so irredeemable as it does now.

In the wake of 9/11, I recall one of my college professors asking the class to consider: "How did we get here?"

In the 21 years since, the same question might be asked about our nation. As for what to do about it, no one seems to have the answers.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Plastic might be making you obese

The global obesity epidemic is getting worse, especially among children, with rates of obesity rising over the past decade and shifting to earlier ages. In the U.S., roughly 40% of today's high school students were overweight by the time they started high school. Globally, the incidence of obesity has tripled since the 1970s, with fully 1 billion people expected to be obese by 2030.

The consequences are grave, as obesity correlates closely with high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease and other serious health problems. Despite the magnitude of the problem, there is still no consensus on the cause, although scientists do recognize many contributing factors, including genetics, stress, viruses and changes in sleeping habits. Of course, the popularity of heavily processed foods—high in sugar, salt and fat—has also played a role, especially in Western nations, where people on average consume more calories per day now than 50 years ago. Even so, recent reviews of the science conclude that much of the huge rise in obesity globally over the past four decades remains unexplained.

An emerging view among scientists is that one major overlooked component in obesity is almost certainly our environment—in particular, the pervasive presence within it of chemicals which, even at very low doses, act to disturb the normal functioning of human metabolism, upsetting the body's ability to regulate its intake and expenditure of energy.

Some of these chemicals, known as “obesogens,” directly boost the production of specific cell types and fatty tissues associated with obesity. Unfortunately, these chemicals are used in many of the most basic products of modern life including plastic packaging, clothes and furniture, cosmetics, food additives, herbicides and pesticides.

Ten years ago the idea of chemically induced obesity was something of a fringe hypothesis, but not anymore.

“Obesogens are certainly a contributing factor to the obesity epidemic,” is what Bruce Blumberg, an expert on obesity and

endocrine-disrupting chemicals from the University of California, Irvine, told me by email. “The difficulty is determining what fraction of obesity is related to chemical exposure.”

Importantly, recent research demonstrates that obesogens act to harm individuals in ways that traditional tests of chemical toxicity can't detect. In particular, consequences of chemical exposure may not appear during the lifetime of an exposed organism but can be passed down through so-called epigenetic mechanisms to offspring even several generations away. A typical example is tributyltin or TBT, a chemical used in wood preservatives, among other things. In experiments exposing mice to low and supposedly safe levels of TBT, Blumberg and his colleagues found significantly increased fat accumulation in the next three generations.

TBT and other obesogens trigger such effects by interfering directly with the normal biochemistry of the endocrine system, which regulates the storage and use of energy, as well as human eating behavior. This biochemistry depends on a wide variety of hormones produced in organs such as the gastrointestinal tract, pancreas and liver, as well as chemicals in the brain capable of altering feelings of hunger. Experiments have shown that mice exposed to obesogenic chemicals before birth exhibit significantly altered appetites later in their lives, and a propensity to obesity.

Nearly 1,000 obesogens with such effects have already been identified in studies with animals or humans. They include Bisphenol A, a chemical widely used in plastics, and the phthalates, plasticizing agents used in paints, medicine and cosmetics. Others include parabens used as preservatives in food and paper products, and chemicals called organotin used as fungicides. Other obesogens include pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate, which a recent study found to be present in the urine of most Americans.

A further clue that these chemicals may lie behind obesity: Studies have found that the obesity crisis is also affecting cats, dogs and other animals living in proximity with people. A signif-

By MARK BUCHANAN

Bloomberg Opinion



Mark Buchanan, a physicist and science writer, is the author of the book Forecast: What Physics, Meteorology and the Natural Sciences Can Teach Us About Economics.

icant rise in obesity incidence has even been noted in laboratory rodents and primates—animals raised under strictly controlled conditions of caloric intake and exercise. The only possible factors driving weight gain for these animals, researchers believe, would be subtle chemical changes in the nature of the foods they eat, or in the materials used to build their pens.

So it is possible that we have unwittingly saturated our living environment with chemicals affecting some of the most fundamental biochemical feedbacks controlling human growth and development. The obesity epidemic will likely persist, or grow worse, unless we can find ways to eliminate such chemicals from the environment, or at least identify the most problematic substances and greatly reduce human exposure to them.

At the very least, it will require a transformation in the way we test chemicals for their toxicity, especially the many compounds that are ubiquitous in our food, plastics, paints, cosmetics and other products. Discoveries in epigenetics have deeply changed basic biological science and medicine over the past 15 years but have not yet had much impact on prevailing practices for chemical safety testing. Scientists are pushing for changes, but it takes time.

Hopefully, appropriate test methods will be adopted within the next few years. If they aren't, we may well struggle to make any appreciable dent in this pernicious epidemic.

Bias toward truth; it's still a thing

There is no journalistic imperative to balance truth with untruth; it's stupid.

And yet we persist.

There is no journalistic protocol which dictates that we interview at least one radical left socialist meteorologist and one MAGA conservative wingnut meteorologist on the issue of whether or not it's raining; looking out the window will suffice.

And yet we persist.

When nine of the hottest years in recorded history have come in the previous 10 years, and catastrophic weather events are sweeping the planet, we needn't call Doug Mastriano to tell us that global warming is “fake science,” and that's not because he won't talk to us anyway.

When Dr. Anthony Fauci retires after a 50-plus-year career as a decorated immunologist who served eight presidents including George W. Bush, who bestowed upon him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, we needn't include in our coverage the reaction of Georgia Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene, whose medical opinion is apparently that Dr. Fauci requires immediate incarceration.

SCHOOLS

From Page 8

The wider problem is that Fine embodies the ongoing strategy by Republican politicians nationwide to discredit public education. A recent Gallup poll showed that 14% of Republicans have “a great deal or quite a lot of confidence” in public schools. That's down 20 points in two years.

The GOP campaign is based on lies. Polls show support for not teaching about gender identity in grades K-3, a key part of the “don't say gay” law—but no such teaching was taking place.

Similarly, polls show support for “parents' rights” in schools. But Florida parents always have had rights. Now, they can sue school districts if they believe those rights were violated.

Imagine the frivolous and nuisance lawsuits that will result if parents like Fine refuse to believe the truth.

Those who truly value public education cannot give Republicans any openings—because if they don't have the facts, they'll just make them up.

And yet we persist.

The “we” that I'm editorializing about here is the collective “we,” the media monolith that lives in the perception of many distrustful Americans, as though none of us makes a move without the coordination of our institutional biases.

In real life, it's all we can do to catch most of the typos.

But the purpose of what we do must stand, institutionalized, and just like when I went to journo school in the mid-14th century, it's not a lot more high-minded than this: Find out what's true and what's not, present the former and condemn the latter when necessary.

And it's rarely been more necessary.

As the former head of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics tweeted only this week, “Any reporters who haven't appreciated the fascist threat yet aren't going to appreciate it until the last institution has fallen and been ground into dust; they'll still be both-sidesing things even once the country looks like Northern Ireland at the height of the troubles.”

President Joe Biden gave a major speech last week in Philadelphia, focusing on the metastasizing threat to democracy. The major TV networks didn't carry it. Had the whiff of partisan politics apparently. Many mainstream media outlets didn't like it, including this one, which took exception to the president's tone. Not helpful, we said.

Two nights later, Trump was in Wilkes-Barre, generating headlines that looked like they'd leaped off the home page of The Onion:

Guy Who Got Equivalent Of \$143 Million From His Dad Accuses Fetterman Of Leeching Off His Parents.

Guy Who Took Highly Classified Documents Out Of White House And Refused To Return Them Calls Biden An Enemy Of The State.

The Post-Gazette's top of Page 1 headline was a little more subdued: Trump stumps for GOP. Ho-hum. Business as usual.

The 45th president, in a two-hour speech mostly about himself rather than the Republican candidates he was ostensibly in the state to support, did get around to calling the FBI vicious monsters and scum, but the more pernicious aspect of it all was the growing normalization of this kind of Trump's brand of rhetorical insanity as legitimate public discourse.

The media's becoming immune to it.

Look at this exchange, highlighted in Jennifer Rubin's column in The Washington Post, between Michael McCaul, the ranking

By GENE COLLIER

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Martha Raddatz on ABC:

Raddatz: Do you see any reason that (Trump) should have taken those documents, those classified, highly classified documents to Mar-a-Lago?

McCaul: Well, look, I—you know, I have lived in the classified world most of my professional career, I personally wouldn't do that. But I'm not the President of the United States. But he has a different set of rules that apply to him. The president can declassify a document on a moment's notice.

Raddatz: (Trump's Attorney General William Barr) basically said, if (Trump) stood over documents and said, “These are all declassified,” it was—it's an absurd idea. You think that's what happened?

McCaul: There is a process for declassification. But again, the president's in a very different position than most of us in the national security space.

It apparently didn't matter to McCaul or occur to Raddatz that Trump is not the president, but the pervasive notion that Trump is above the law and thus can do no legal wrong went pretty much unchallenged.

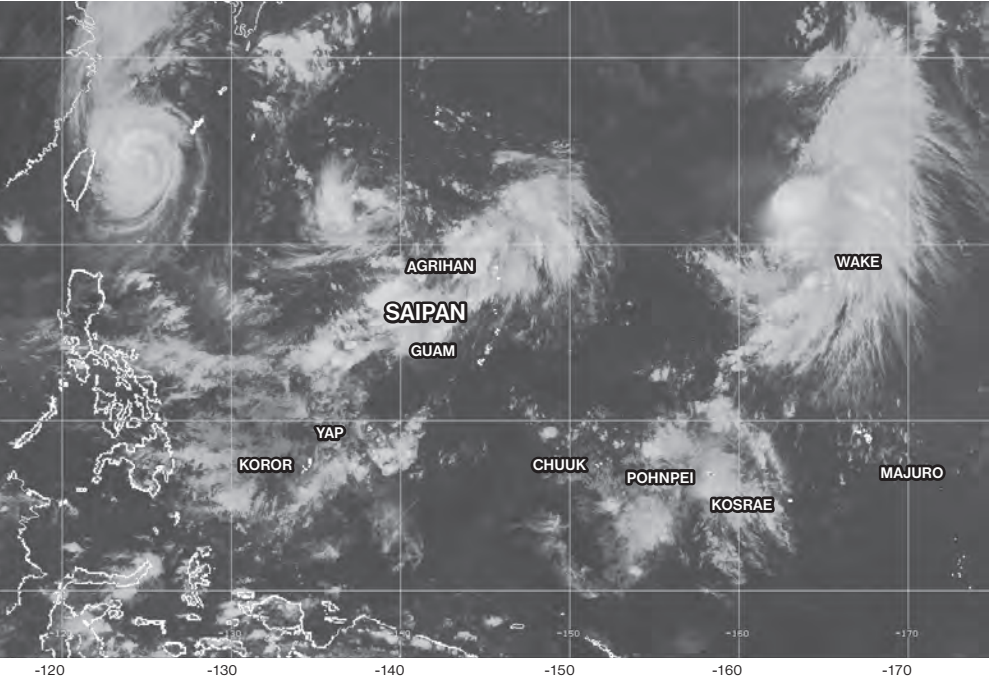
The reluctance of McCaul to even suggest that something Trump did wasn't 100% on the level is an apt description of the fun-house mirror Republicans are looking into. They feel like they can't win without Trump, can't win without the man who lost the Senate, lost the House, lost the White House by 7 million votes, and got impeached twice.

But don't worry, I know I should be getting myself out to a MAGA rally soon enough so that I can learn about the errors in my analysis.

Cuz that's how we do it nowadays.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
Scattered showers. Partly sunny		Scattered showers. Partly sunny		Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy		A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy		A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy	
87°	78°	87°	78°	87°	78°	87°	78°	87°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:01 AM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite and radar imagery showed isolated showers over the Marianas this morning. Southerly winds prevail across the local area.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▲ ▼ °F		
Guam and Rota	Scattered Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:05 AM	6:20 PM
Wednesday	6:05 AM	6:19 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:18 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:18 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:17 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	8:23 AM	8:28 PM
Wednesday	-	9:16 AM	9:07 PM
Thursday	-	10:09 AM	9:49 PM
Friday	-	11:02 AM	10:33 PM
Saturday	-	11:55 AM	11:19 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE ▲ ▼ °F		
Auckland	Showers	62° / 51°
Beijing	Sunny	90° / 66°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	94° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 75°
London	Showers	68° / 57°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	82° / 68°
Manila	Isolated Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	56° / 38°
Miami	Thunderstorms	89° / 78°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	82° / 72°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	93° / 77°
Paris	Cloudy	84° / 67°
Busan	Light Rain/Wind	78° / 73°
Rome	Sunny	87° / 64°
Salem	Thunderstorms	83° / 59°
San Francisco	Cloudy	68° / 58°
Seoul	Showers	78° / 68°
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 75°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	85° / 67°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
3:37 AM	Low Tide	0.48
9:26 AM	High Tide	1.95
3:49 PM	Low Tide	0.54
9:36 PM	High Tide	1.94

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6	UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily	PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
SAIPAN-NARITA				NARITA-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:00AM	9:30AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	2:00 AM+1	2, 4, 7
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:30PM	7:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	4
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3, 4, 7	7C3406	8:50AM	2:50PM	3, 7
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
				TW307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 6, 7
				TW307	9:15AM	2:30PM	3
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:00PM	6:35PM	3, 7	BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7	7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T*Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.		10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.	
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)
SAIPAN TO ROTA			ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.		9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.	
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.		2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.	
SAIPAN TO GUAM			GUAM TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.		12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.	
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.		6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.	

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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Business

Americans give health care system failing mark: AP-NORC poll

WASHINGTON (AP)—When Emmanuel Obeng-Dankwa is worried about making rent on his New York City apartment, he sometimes holds off on filling his blood pressure medication.

"If there's no money, I prefer to skip the medication to being homeless," said Obeng-Dankwa, a 58-year-old security guard.

He is among a majority of adults in the U.S. who say that health care is not handled well in the country, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

The poll reveals that public satisfaction with the U.S. health care system is remarkably low, with fewer than half of Americans saying it is generally handled well. Only 12% say it is handled extremely or very well. Americans have similar views about health care for older adults.

Overall, the public gives



AP
A nurse checks on IV fluids while talking to a COVID-19 patient at Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in Los Angeles, Dec. 13, 2021.

troubled America's health care system. They have been abundantly clear during the COVID-19 pandemic, with Black and Hispanic people dying disproportionately from the virus. Black and Hispanic men also make up a disproportionately high rate of recent monkeypox infections.

Fifty-three percent of women said they are extremely or very concerned about obtaining quality care, compared to 42% of men.

While Americans are united in their dissatisfaction with the health care system, that agreement dissolves when it comes to solutions to fix it.

About two-thirds of adults think it is the federal government's responsibility to make sure all Americans have health care coverage, with adults ages 18 to 49 more likely than those over 50 to hold that view. The percentage of people who believe health care coverage is a government responsibility has risen in recent years, ticking up from 57% in 2019 and 62% in 2017.

Still, there's not consensus on how that coverage might be delivered.

About 4 in 10 Americans say they support a single-payer health care system that would require Americans to get their health insurance from a government plan. More, 58%, say they favor a government health insurance plan that anyone can purchase.

Visa, Mastercard, AmEx to start categorizing gun shop sales



AP
Visa credit cards are seen on Aug. 11, 2019, in New Orleans.

NEW YORK (AP)—Payment processor Visa Inc. said Saturday that it plans to start separately categorizing sales at gun shops, a major win for gun control advocates who say it will help better track suspicious surges of gun sales that could be a prelude to a mass shooting.

But the decision by Visa, the world's largest payment processor, will likely provoke the ire of gun rights advocates and gun lobbyists, who have argued that categorizing gun sales would unfairly flag an industry when most sales do not lead to mass shootings. It joins Mastercard and American Express, which also said they plan to move forward with categorizing gun shop sales.

Visa said it would adopt the International Organization for Standardization's new merchant code for gun sales, which was announced on Friday. Until Friday, gun store sales were considered

"general merchandise."

"Following ISO's decision to establish a new merchant category code, Visa will proceed with next steps, while ensuring we protect all legal commerce on the Visa network in accordance with our long-standing rules," the payment processor said in a statement.

Visa's adoption is significant as the largest payment network, and with Mastercard and AmEx, will likely put pressure on the banks as the card issuers to adopt the standard as well. Visa acts as a middleman between merchants and banks, and it will be up to banks to decide whether they will allow sales at gun stores to happen on their issued cards.

Gun control advocates had gained significant wins on this front in recent weeks. New York City officials and pension funds had pressured the ISO and banks to adopt this code.

even lower marks for how prescription drug costs, the quality of care at nursing homes and mental health care are being handled, with just 6 percent or less saying those health services are done very well in the country.

"Navigating the American health care system is exceedingly frustrating," said A. Mark Fendrick, the director of the University of Michigan Center for Value-Based Insurance Design. "The COVID pandemic

has only made it worse."

More than two years after the pandemic's start, health care worker burnout and staffing shortages are plaguing hospitals around the country. And Americans are still having trouble getting in-person medical care after health centers introduced restrictions as COVID-19 killed and sickened millions of people around the country, Fendrick said.

In fact, the poll shows an overwhelming majority of

Americans, nearly 8 in 10, say they are at least moderately concerned about getting access to quality health care when they need it.

Black and Hispanic adults in particular are resoundingly worried about health care access, with nearly 6 in 10 saying they are very or extremely concerned about getting good care. Fewer than half of white adults, 44%, expressed the same level of worry.

Racial disparities have long

As small businesses raise prices, some customers push back

NEW YORK (AP)—Inflation isn't only costing small businesses money. It's costing them customers as well.

At the Bushwick Grind Cafe in Brooklyn, New York, Kymme Williams-Davis has raised prices and switched to different types of goods to keep up with the rising costs of milk, coffee, paper goods and plastic, as well as shortages of items such as paper cups and plastic lids. She hasn't experienced anything like this since opening in 2015.

Williams-Davis says she has lost nearly half of her regular customers. Some have traded down and are buying coffee for \$1 at the McDonald's or bodega on either side of the café instead of paying the \$3 she charges.

"If (customers) can get it for a dollar for not that notable of a difference, they're going next door."

One customer who had been coming in for years stopped in to tell Williams-Davis he bought himself a coffeemaker.

"He said I'm going to start making coffee at home, I need



AP
Kim Shanahan, who operates online store Gifts Fulfilled, stacks Get Well Soon boxes in her shop, Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, in Berlin, Md. This is a fulfillment project for another company to create jobs at her company.

to budget, so I won't be coming in here every day," she said. "I feel like I've been on a goodbye campaign."

Inflation has been rising at nearly the fastest pace in 40 years, driven up by strong consumer spending and higher costs for food, rent, medical care, and other necessities.

On Tuesday, the government is expected to report that price increases slowed in August compared with a

year ago, largely because of a steady drop in the cost of gas. Prices for other items, particularly food, are likely to keep rising quickly. Overall, economists forecast consumer prices rose 8.1% in August, compared with a year ago, down from 8.5% in July, according to data provider FactSet.

For much of the pandemic, small business customers were largely tolerant of price increases and kept on spend-

ing. But now owners say they're seeing some pushback.

Ninety-seven percent of small business owners say inflationary pressure is the same or worse than it was three months ago, according to a survey of more than 1,500 small businesses by Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Voices. Sixty-five percent have raised prices to offset higher costs. And 38% say they've seen a decline in customer demand due to price increases.

Nicole Miskelley, who manages PMR, an auto and diesel repair shop in Marion, Illinois, said she has seen customers delay repairs that aren't urgent such as scheduled maintenance or getting new tires.

At the beginning of the year, Miskelley's labor costs rose 12% and the cost of towing cars to the shop went up due to higher gas prices. Parts are more expensive too. Last year, an air conditioner processor would cost her \$200, but this year she can't find one for under \$400. So, she's had to raise her average price for a repair by 30% to 40%.

Nation

In a nod to JFK, Biden is pushing ‘moonshot’ to fight cancer

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden is set to channel John F. Kennedy on the 60th anniversary of the former president’s moonshot speech, as the incumbent tries to set the nation’s sights on “ending cancer as we know it.”

Biden was traveling to Boston on Monday to highlight a new federally backed study that seeks to validate using blood tests to screen against multiple cancers—a potential game-changer in diagnostic

testing to dramatically improve early detection of cancers. He also planned other announcements meant to better the lives of those suffering from cancer.

His speech at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum comes as Biden seeks to rally the nation around developing treatments and therapeutics for the



Biden

pervasive diseases that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention rank as the second-highest killer of people in the U.S. after heart disease. Biden hopes to move the U.S. closer to the goal he set in February of cutting U.S. cancer fatalities by 50% over the next 25 years and to dramatically improve the lives of

caregivers and those suffering from cancer.

Danielle Carnival, the White House cancer moonshot coordinator, told The Associated Press that the administration sees huge potential in the commencement of the blood diagnostic study on identifying and treating cancers.

“One of the most promising technologies has been the development of blood tests that offer the promise of detecting multiple cancers in a single

blood test and really imagining the impact that could have on our ability to detect cancer early and in a more equitable way,” Carnival said. “We think the best way to get us to the place where those are realized is to really test out the technologies we have today and see what works and what really has an impact on extending lives.”

In 2022, the American Cancer Society estimates, 1.9 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed and 609,360 people will die of cancer diseases.

The issue is personal to Biden, who lost his adult son Beau in 2015 to brain cancer. After Beau’s death, Congress passed the 21st Century Cures Act, which dedicated \$1.8 billion over seven years for cancer research and was signed into law in 2016 by President Barack Obama.

Obama designated Biden, then vice president, to run “mission control” on directing the cancer funds as a recogni-

tion of Biden’s grief as a parent and desire to do something about it. Biden wrote in his memoir “Promise Me, Dad” that he chose not to run for president in 2016 primarily because of Beau’s death.

Despite Biden’s attempts to hark back to Kennedy and his space program, the current initiative lacks that same level of budgetary support. The Apollo program garnered massive public investment—more than \$20 billion, or more than \$220 billion in 2022 dollars adjusted for inflation. Biden’s “moonshot” effort is far more modest and reliant on private sector investment.

Still, Biden has tried to maintain momentum for investments in public health research, including championing the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health, modeled after similar research and development initiatives benefiting the Pentagon and intelligence community.

Trial set to begin for Alex Jones in Sandy Hook hoax case

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—A month after losing one nearly \$50 million verdict, conspiracy theorist Alex Jones is set to go on trial a second time for calling the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting a hoax and causing several of the victims’ families emotional and psychological harm.

A six-member jury with several alternates in Connecticut will begin hearing evidence Tuesday on how much Jones should pay the families, since he already has been found liable for damages to them. The trial is expected to last about four weeks.

Last month, a Texas jury ordered Jones to pay \$49.3 million to the parents of 6-year-old Jesse Lewis, one of 26 students and teachers killed in the 2012 shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. Jones’ lawyer has said an appeal is planned.

The Connecticut case has the potential for a larger award because it involves three lawsuits—which have been consolidated—that were filed by 15 plaintiffs, including the relatives of nine of the victims and a former FBI agent who responded to the school shooting.

Jones, who runs his web show and Infowars brand in Austin, Texas, also faces a third trial over the hoax conspiracy in another pending lawsuit by Sandy Hook parents in Texas.

Here is a look at the upcoming



AP
Alex Jones talks to media during a midday break in his trial at the Travis County Courthouse in Austin, Texas, on July 26, 2022.

trial in Waterbury, Connecticut, about 18 miles (29 kilometers) northeast of Newtown. Infowars’ parent company, Free Speech Systems, which has filed for bankruptcy protection, is also a defendant.

WHY ARE THE SANDY HOOK FAMILIES SUING JONES?

The families and former FBI agent William Aldenberg say they have been confronted and harassed in person by Jones’ followers because of the hoax conspiracy. They also say they

have endured death threats and been subjected to abusive comments on social media.

Some of the plaintiffs say strangers have videotaped them and their surviving children. And some families have moved out of Newtown to avoid threats and harassment.

“I can’t even describe the last nine and a half years, the living hell that I and others have had to endure because of the recklessness and negligence of Alex Jones,” Neil Heslin, Jesse Lewis’ father, testified during the Texas trial.

The Connecticut lawsuit alleges defamation, intentional infliction of emotional distress and violations of the state Unfair Trade Practices Act. The families claim when Jones talked about Sandy Hook, he boosted his audience and raked in more profits from selling supplements, clothing and other items.

The families have not asked for any specific amount of damages, some of which may be limited by state laws. There are no damage limits, however, under the Unfair Trade Practices Act.

Mother’s boyfriend arrested in killing of California girl, 8

MERCED, Calif. (AP)—After a months-long manhunt, police arrested a suspect in the death of an 8-year-old girl who had been reported missing before her body was found last March inside a central California home, authorities said Sunday.

Dhante Jackson was taken into custody Saturday in the San Francisco Bay Area city of Newark on suspicion of killing Sophia Mason, police and the California attorney general’s office said.

Investigators determined

the child suffered continuous physical abuse, was malnourished and at times was forced to live in a shed in the backyard of Jackson’s home, Merced Police Department Lt. Joe Perez said during a news conference Sunday.

Jackson was in a relationship with the young victim’s mother, 30-year-old Samantha Johnson, who was arrested in March and has



Jackson

pleaded not guilty to murder and child abuse, prosecutors said.

Jackson, 34, also faces murder and child abuse charges. It wasn’t known Sunday if he has an attorney who could speak on his behalf.

Four other people were arrested Saturday on suspicion of helping Jackson evade arrest, Perez said.

“In my 20 years of law enforcement, this case is the most

disturbing and horrific that I’ve seen,” the lieutenant said.

Sophia was reported missing by relatives in the San Francisco Bay Area city of Hayward. They told police they had not had contact with the girl since December, and that she was known to stay at different locations between Hayward and Southern California.

The missing person report led Hayward police to arrest Johnson on a warrant stemming from a case of child abuse in Alameda County last year, police said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Loud thunder from small Oregon storm shakes Portland

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A single strike of lightning from a small Oregon storm and the ensuing thunder shook the city of Portland on Sunday afternoon, the National Weather Service said. The flash and bang was an unexpected “one-hit wonder” that came from a small storm cell, meteorologist Tyler Kranz said. No more lightning was expected. The boom at 2:13 p.m. led to social media posts questioning whether it was thunder or possibly a meteorite. A lightning detector registered a single strike of lightning at the same time the thunder was reported, Kranz said. It was a positive charged cloud-to-ground flash with strong current, causing the unexpected boom.

1 dead after motorboat flips at Grand Canyon National Park

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, Ariz. (AP)—A 67-year-old man died after a motorboat flipped over during a Colorado River trip inside Grand Canyon National Park, officials said Sunday. Park officials said the boat overturned shortly after 2 p.m. Saturday at Bedrock Rapid, which rafting experts say is a large rocky island that di-

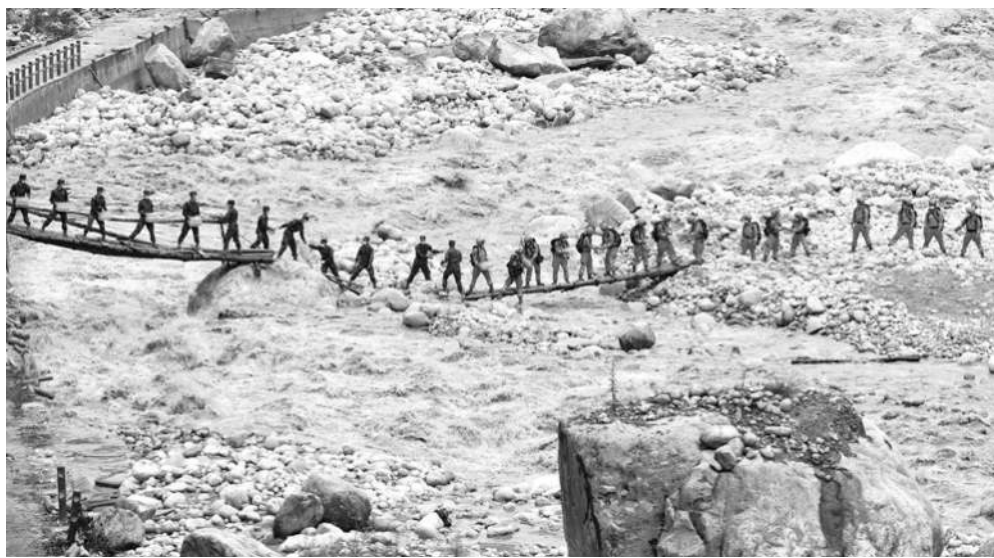
vides the river into left and right channels. Emergency medical personnel treated four people and transported them to the South Rim, park officials said. Authorities say their injuries are not critical. Park officials identified the deceased as Ronald Vanderlugt, but didn’t immediately release his hometown. They said Vanderlugt was on the fifth day of his trip.

Seattle teacher strike persists, no classes Monday

SEATTLE (AP)—Students in Seattle on Monday will miss a fourth day of school as teachers strike over pay and classroom support. The school district Sunday afternoon announced the cancellation of Monday classes and said negotiations with the union were ongoing. “We are optimistic an agreement will be reached soon so that students can begin school,” Seattle Public Schools said. The strike began Wednesday, what was supposed to be the first day of school for the approximately 49,000 students in the district. Striking teachers said their main concern was educational and emotional help for students, especially those with special needs or learning difficulties. The Seattle Education Association said 95% of its voting members approved the strike.

Asia

Death toll from western China quake rises to 93



In this photo released by Xinhua News Agency, rescuers deliver supplies via a temporary bridge in the aftermath of an earthquake near Moxi Town of Luding County, southwest China's Sichuan Province, Sept. 8, 2022. AP

BEIJING (AP)—The death toll from a major earthquake in western China rose to 93 as the search for survivors continued, authorities said.

A magnitude 6.8 quake hit Sichuan province last week, with much of the damage concentrated in Ganze Tibetan Autonomous Region in the province.

Another 25 people remain missing as of Sunday evening, rescuers said, according to state broadcaster CCTV. The search for survivors and recovery of bodies were complicated by heavy rains and the risks of landslides, which

forced some residents to move to temporary shelters.

The earthquake also affected Chengdu, the provincial capital, where residents were under strict zero-COVID controls, meaning they were not allowed to leave their buildings. Footage online showed residents banging at metal gates at the front of apartment complexes as they sought to leave their buildings.

Tens of millions remain under China's extensive zero-COVID controls. Chengdu's local government announced that a few districts where there had been no new CO-

VID19 cases will be allowed to reopen Monday. However, much of its 21 million residents remain under lockdown. The city reported just 143 cases of coronavirus infection Monday, more than half of which were people who did not have symptoms.

China has stuck to its massive system of lockdowns and mass testing even as the rest of the world has loosened restrictions. The country's approach has minimized deaths, but has kept millions of people locked in their homes for weeks or even months at a time.

NZ lifts remaining COVID rules as cases wane

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—New Zealand removed most of its remaining COVID-19 restrictions Monday as the government signaled a return to normalcy for the first time since the pandemic began.

People will no longer be required to wear masks in supermarkets, stores, busses or planes. The last remaining vaccine mandates—on health care workers—will end. And tourists will no longer need to

be vaccinated in order to visit the country.

The government announced it was ditching its so-called COVID traffic light framework altogether and leaving in place just two main restrictions — that those who test positive for the virus isolate for seven days, and that people wear masks when visiting health care facilities like hospitals and aged-care homes.

The changes come as an

omicron variant outbreak wanes and the Southern Hemisphere winter ends. Case numbers in New Zealand are at the lowest point since February.

"The changes we've made today are significant. They mark a milestone in our response," said Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. "This is a time when finally—rather than feeling COVID dictates what happens to us, our lives, and our futures—we take control back."

Okinawa reelects governor opposing heavy US troop presence

TOKYO (AP) — Okinawa's incumbent governor who opposes an ongoing U.S. Marine base relocation forced by Japan's central government and calls for a further reduction of American troops on the southern island secured his reelection on Sunday despite concerns of escalating tensions between China and nearby Taiwan.



Tamaki

Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki and his supporters declared his victory and celebrated with the chants of "ban-zai" soon after the exit poll results showed he beat two contenders — Atsushi Sakima, backed by Prime Minister

Fumio Kishida's governing bloc and supports its base relocation plan, and another opposition-backed candidate

Mikio Shimoji.

Tamaki, who is backed by opposition parties, won 339,767 votes, or about 51% of the effective votes, over Sakima's 274,844 votes and Shimoji's 53,677, according to the final results released Monday by the Okinawa prefecture. Polls were held Sunday before his first four-year term is to end later this month.

Tamaki's victory could deepen tensions between Okinawa and the central government.

World

Russia damages power stations after Ukraine counteroffensive

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Russia attacked power stations and other infrastructure Sunday, causing widespread outages across Ukraine as Kyiv's forces pressed a swift counteroffensive that has driven Moscow's troops from swaths of territory it had occupied in the northeast.

The bombardment ignited a massive fire at a power station on Kharkiv's western outskirts and killed at least one person. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy denounced the "deliberate and cynical missile strikes" against civilian targets as acts of terrorism.

Ukraine's second-largest city of Kharkiv appeared to be without power Sunday night. Cars drove through darkened streets, and the few pedestrians used flashlights or mobile phones to light their way.

Separately, the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

in the Russia-occupied south completely shut down in a bid to prevent a radiation disaster as fighting raged nearby.

Kyiv's action in recent days to reclaim Russia-occupied areas in the Kharkiv region forced Moscow to withdraw its troops to prevent them from being surrounded, leaving behind significant numbers of weapons and munitions in a hasty flight as the war marked its 200th day on Sunday.

Ukraine's military chief, Gen. Valerii Zaluzhnyi, said its forces had recaptured about 3,000 square kilometers (1,160 square miles) since the counteroffensive began in early September. He said Ukrainian troops are only 50 kilometers (about 30 miles) from the Russian border.

One battalion shared a video of Ukrainian forces in front of a municipal building

in Hoptivka, a village just over a mile from the border and about 19 kilometers (12 miles) north of Kharkiv.

Kharkiv Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said Ukrainian troops have reclaimed control of more than 40 settlements in the region.

In Sunday night's missile attacks by Russia, the Kharkiv and Donetsk regions seemed to bear the brunt. Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Sumy had only partially lost power, Zelenskyy said.

Kharkiv Mayor Igor Terekhov called the power outage "revenge by the Russian aggressor for the successes of our army at the front, in particular, in the Kharkiv region."

Ukrainian officials said Russia hit Kharkiv TEC-5, the country's second-biggest heat and power plant, and Zelenskyy posted video of the Kharkiv power plant on fire.

Queen Elizabeth II's coffin takes long road through Scotland

EDINBURGH, Scotland (AP)—In a somber, regal procession, Queen Elizabeth II's flag-draped coffin was driven slowly through the Scottish countryside Sunday from her beloved Balmoral Castle to the Scottish capital of Edinburgh. Mourners packed city streets and highway bridges or lined rural roads with cars and tractors to take part in a historic goodbye to the monarch who had reigned for 70 years.

The hearse drove past piles of bouquets and other tributes as it led a seven-car cortege from Balmoral,

where the queen died Thursday at 96, for a six-hour trip through Scottish towns to Holyroodhouse palace in Edinburgh. The late queen's coffin was draped in the Royal Standard for Scotland and topped with a wreath made of flowers from the estate, including sweet peas, one of the queen's favorites.

The procession was a huge event for Scotland as the U.K. takes days to mourn its longest-reigning monarch, the only one most Britons have ever known. People turned out hours early to grab a space by the police

barricades in Edinburgh. By afternoon, the crowds were 10 people deep.

"I think she has been an ever-constant in my life. She was the queen I was born under, and she has always been there," said Angus Ruthven, a 54-year-old civil servant from Edinburgh. "I think it is going to take a lot of adjusting that she is not here."

Silence fell on the packed Royal Mile in Edinburgh as the hearse carrying the queen arrived. But as the convoy vanished from view, the crowd spontaneously started clapping.

WORLD BRIEFS

1 dead, 39 injured in fireworks blast at Mexican celebration

MEXICO CITY (AP)—One person died and 39 were injured after a stray fireworks explosion at a town festival just west of Mexico City. The township of Tanguistenco said Sunday the blast occurred late Saturday during an annual village celebration in San Nicolás Coatepec. The municipal government said at least five people were in serious condition, and seven others were still hospitalized. The remaining 27 people injured in the blast were treated and released. Video of the incident posted on social media appeared to show a

fireworks-laden "torito," or little bull, running through crowds. The torito is a wood or wire framework with roman candles strapped to the outside, while someone operates it from the inside. The device may have set off another piece of fireworks, though powerful bottle rockets also appeared to be detonating at the same time.

Death toll in northern Mexico bus crash rises to 20

MEXICO CITY (AP)—The death toll in a bus crash in northern Mexico has risen to 20, as questions emerge about whether a double-tanker fuel truck may have caused the accident. The state government

of Hidalgo, where eight of the victims were from, said late Saturday the crash also killed 11 people from the Gulf coast state of Veracruz. It wasn't immediately known where the 20th person killed was from. While there had been some concern the victims were a contingent of migrant laborers, Hidalgo said the bus simply picked up anyone who flagged it down along its route to the northern city of Monterrey. The bus collided with a tanker truck carrying fuel and in the northern border state of Tamaulipas. State prosecutors said in a statement that "the crash may have occurred because one of the fuel tanks came loose."

Overdrive

By HENRY PAYNE
THE DETROIT NEWS

A new Mustang is coming. Long live the V-8.

The seventh generation of Ford Motor Co.'s iconic muscle-car figures to be a headliner for the 2022 Detroit Auto Show when it debuts Sept. 14. And unlike its Dodge and Chevrolet segment competitors, expect the 2024 pony car to continue to feed gas-powered red meat to its legion of fans — including a howling, 5.0-liter V-8 option under the hood.

While the Chevrolet Camaro is due to sunset in 2024 (complete with Heritage Edition farewell package, according to press reports) and

Dodge is waving goodbye to its gas-powered Challenger and Charger beasts (even the legendary V-8-fired Hellcat) the same model year due to crippling government fines, Mustang will continue to fly the flag for the affordable pony car segment it created in 1964.

Mustang, one of Ford's iconic vehicles along with the F-150 pickup and Bronco SUV, is the Blue Oval's performance halo.

That performance has inspired a quiet, electric, Mustang Mach-E SUV, but the sports car will continue on its rib-rattling, piston-pounding ways. We know that not only from spy shots with quad tailpipes sprouting out the rear of the 'Stang, but from Ford's

motorhead CEO himself.

"Mustang is the world's best-selling sports car because there's one for everyone — from an EcoBoost convertible to 5-liter V-8 GT fastback coupe," said Jim Farley as he rallied the Mustang faithful ahead of the new coupe's evening reveal Sept. 14. "Now it's time to . . . welcome the next chapter in Mustang's legacy."

Farley's remarks were accompanied by an audio clip of the V-8 mill.

That powerplant is likely to be based on the same 5.0-liter Coyote V-8 found in the current GT. That engine already felt the pinch of federal regulators for the 2022 model year when its output was reduced 10 horsepower to 450 ponies.

But without Camaro and Challenger coupes in the market, Mustang stands to pick up sales above the 52,414 units it sold in 2021. Challenger outsold Mustang in 2021 with 54,314 units on the strength of its iconic V-8 mating call, while Camaro sold 21,893 cars. Some Mustang customers may also gain from the Charger sedan's (the only four-door in the segment) demise, which leaves 78,389 in sales on the table.

The so-called "EcoBoost," turbocharged, 2.3-liter inline-four cylinder engine is also expected to carry over in entry-level Mustang models. Shared with Ford's ferocious, European Focus RS, the 310 horsepower/350 torque engine

also has been popular in the Mustang's High Performance model. Both engines should be mated to a six-speed manual and 10-speed, automatic transmission.

Beyond the oily bits, expect the exterior to get an evolutionary update from the radical, sixth-generation car that remade the face of Mustang in 2015. Look to the interior for the biggest change in the new coupe.

Electronics are reshaping vehicle interiors, and the new Mustang is no different. It will likely get a bigger, more exotic instrument display and console touchscreen. Expect them to be run by Ford's SYNC 4 system (which debuted in the Ford F-Series trucks) which

brings more computing power and nifty features like wireless Apple CarPlay/Android Auto and split screen usability.

The new, 2024 Mustang likely will debut in just the EcoBoost and GT trims, with the former expected to start just below \$30,000 in keeping with the brand's affordable reputation that has made it the world's best-selling sportscar across 144 countries. Past generations have primed enthusiasts to expect high-powered, higher-priced variants like the Shelby GT350 and GT500 (which can crest \$80,000), not to mention stylish trims like the Bullitt and Mach 1. The first Mustang hybrid may be one of those special models.

The 2024 Ford Mustang cometh: *What we think we know*

TNS
Ford announced at the 2022 Woodward Dream Cruise that it will welcome Ford Mustang owners, fans, media and its employees to The Stampede — the global debut of the all-new, seventh-generation Ford Mustang taking place at the Detroit Auto Show on Sept. 14, 2022, at 8 p.m. EDT. A camouflaged version of the vehicle was on display.



Avoid the temptation

Q: I religiously read your Sunday newspaper column right after Dilbert. I keep getting emails about EcoMax, which appears to be a plug-in device promising 15-35% less gas consumption. Is this a viable \$49.95 investment?

—M.S., Valparaiso, Indiana

A: I am glad that Dilbert shares the column with you. Do you piously read it while in church? Too-amazing-to-believe fuel saving devices are the work of the devil. Avoid the temptation.

■■■

Q: In Chicago and probably elsewhere, they are stealing catalytic converters. Is there any low-cost way to put something around them to secure or deter? I leave my Honda outside

while on vacation.

—L.W., Deerfield Beach, Florida

A: Although some suggest etching the VIN (vehicle identification number) onto the converter, this is not a good deterrent. Thieves simply sell the cats to unscrupulous repair shops who may even grind off the etching. The best deterrent is a theft-proof cover welded or riveted over the car. A couple hundred dollars could save a towing charge and replacement converter. It can get costly if you don't have comprehensive insurance coverage. Thieves don't want to spend extra time getting your cat when lower hanging fruit is nearby.

■■■

Q: I had the catalytic converter stolen from my 2019 Toyota Tundra. I've been told that due

to a severe backup, I probably won't get mine done for a couple months. There are several aftermarket ones on Amazon and eBay, but my service adviser at the Toyota dealer and a local muffler shop manager have told me that although cheaper, they are not the same quality as original Toyota parts. My insurance will only pay for one or the other. I'd appreciate your thoughts.

—B.W., Henderson, Nevada

A: Aftermarket converters that are EPA compliant are fine. Although there are some multi-fit generic converters, get an exact fit unit so that it will function properly with emission control sensors and keep the check engine light off. If you wait for one from Toyota, your rental car insurance coverage will likely run out, adding to your out-of-pocket expenses.

■■■

Q: After pumping gas my hus-

band does an elaborate series of gymnastic moves in order to lift the hose higher than the nozzle while I slide down in my seat, pretending I'm not there. Is he the smartest man in the universe by getting every last drop he has paid for or the most uninformed in that the gas purchased is measured at the nozzle rather than at the pump itself?

—E.W., Glastonbury, Connecticut

A: He may be eligible for membership in Mensa or the Olympic gymnastics team. The gasoline dispenser nozzle is simply a nozzle not unlike the one on your garden hose. The valve inside the fuel dispenser unit is like the hose bibb (sillcock valve) where you turn your water on and off. When you turn off the water and open the nozzle, residual water runs out of the hose. Hold your head up.

MOTORMOUTH
By BOB WEBER
Chicago Tribune

Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. He maintains this status by seeking certification every five years. Weber's work appears in professional trade magazines and other consumer publications. His writing also appears in automotive trade publications, Consumer Guide and Consumers Digest. Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60601 or motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.



■■■

Q: My wife has a 2010 Infiniti EX35 with 79,000 miles. It's been running a little rough lately. We just had it serviced by the dealer and they said that they did a fuel induction service to the car because of a buildup. The car now runs like new. Henceforth, should I be adding some sort of cleaner to

the gas tank every so often?
—B.J., Orefield, Pennsylvania

A: No amount of additive in the fuel will keep the engine's throttle body clean. The throttle body is the last step where the air is controlled on its way into the engine. As the throttle body gets dirty the airflow is disrupted causing drivability problems.

Life & Style

‘Squid Game,’ ‘Succession,’ ‘Ted Lasso’ vie for Emmy Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Emmy Awards host Kenan Thompson and the ceremony’s producers are promising a feel-good event—a phrase not applicable to several of the top nominated shows.

The best drama contenders include the violently dystopian “Squid Game,” bleak workplace satire “Severance” and “Succession,” about a powerful and cutthroat family. Even comedy nominee “Ted Lasso,” the defending champ, took a storytelling dark turn.

But after several pandemic-constrained awards seasons, Monday’s 74th Primetime Emmy Awards (airing 8 p.m. EDT on NBC, streaming on Peacock) will be big and festive, executive producers Reginald Hudlin and Ian Stewart said.

They’re actually taking a page from last year’s scaled-down ceremony and its club-style table seating for nominees.

“They had a ball. They had a party. They celebrated themselves,” Stewart said, recalling a comment made by actor Sophia

Bush at the evening’s end: “Oh, my God, I actually had fun at the Emmys.”

The tables will be back and again reserved for nominees—and their “significants,” Stewart said—but there will be some 3,000 other guests seated traditionally in the temporarily reconfigured 7,000-seat Microsoft Theater in downtown Los Angeles.

“When the nominees are having a great time that translates on screen,” Hudlin said, citing the “passionate, touching” speeches delivered by winners.

Thompson, the veteran “Saturday Night Live” cast member

taking his first turn as Emmys host, said he wants to enjoy the ceremony and make sure others do.

“This should be a night of appreciating artistry and creativity and removing the stress of it all out. I get it—it sucks to lose, and everybody’s picking outfits and trying to do the red carpet thing,” Thompson said. “But at the same time, it’s an awesome thing to be in the room on Emmys night, and I don’t want that to get lost in the stress.”

He doesn’t expect anything mirroring the Will Smith-Chris Rock confrontation that cast a shadow over the Oscars earlier

this year, Thompson said.

Although HBO’s “Succession,” which won the best drama series award in 2020, and “Ted Lasso” from Apple TV+ are considered the frontrunners for top series honors, there’s potential for surprises. Netflix’s “Squid Game,” a global sensation, would be the first non-English language drama series to win an Emmy.

AP
An Emmy award is pictured during Press Preview Day for the 74th Primetime Emmy Awards on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, at the Television Academy in Los Angeles.



What’s next for the UK as Queen Elizabeth II laid to rest

LONDON (AP)—The death of Queen Elizabeth II set in motion a tightly choreographed series of ceremonial and constitutional steps, as Britain undergoes a period of national mourning and enters the reign of King Charles III.

A long-established 10-day plan, code-named Operation London Bridge, covers arrangements for the queen’s final journey to London and state funeral. Here is a look at what will happen in the coming days:

Tuesday Sept. 13

■ The queen’s coffin is taken by hearse to Edinburgh Airport. It will be flown by the Royal Air Force to London and taken to Buckingham Palace.

■ The king and Camilla will visit Northern Ireland, where they meet politicians and faith leaders and attend a service of remembrance at St. Anne’s Cathedral.

Wednesday, Sept. 14

■ The coffin is transported

from Buckingham Palace to Parliament on a gun carriage, with the king and other royals walking behind.

■ It is placed in Parliament’s medieval Westminster Hall, where the archbishop of Canterbury conducts a short service. The queen will then lie in state for four days, until the morning of her funeral. Members of the public will be able to pay their respects and troops will keep a round-the-clock vigil.

Friday, Sept. 16

■ The king and queen consort will visit Wales.

Monday, Sept. 19

■ The queen’s coffin will be taken from Westminster Hall to nearby Westminster Abbey for a state funeral that begins at 11 a.m. Leaders and dignitaries from around the world are expected to attend.

■ The funeral marks the end of 10 days of national mourning, and the day will be a public holiday across the U.K.

‘Barbarian’ is top film amid late-summer box office doldrums

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The horror film “Barbarian” won the weekend by bringing in \$10 million, according to studio estimates Sunday, as the late-summer doldrums at the box office continued.

Director Zach Cregger’s debut from Disney’s 20th Century Studios premiered at San Diego Comic-Con in July and opened Friday on 2,340 screens.

“Barbarian” tells the story of a young woman (Georgina Campbell) who finds her Airbnb-rented house weirdly occupied by a stranger (Bill Skarsgård) in a half-ruined section of Detroit. It goes on to subvert several horror conventions.

The hardly head-turning numbers were expected in a nearly always slow September, with the bigger movies of fall and the holiday season many weeks away. “Barbarian” nearly earned back its

\$10.5 million budget in its first weekend, and accounted for nearly a quarter of the entirety of theatrical earnings.

“In a weekend where the overall box office is quite low, the top number of \$10 million is a really solid number for this marketplace,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for data firm Comscore. “Horror movies are always an accountant’s dream, and this is why.”

Coming in a distant second, but playing on just 810 screens, was “Brahmāstra: Part One: Shiva,” an Indian, Hindi-language fantasy epic from Star Studios, another subsidiary of Disney.

The film written and directed by Ayan Mukerji, about a DJ named Shiva who discovers a connection with the element of fire and an ability to awaken a supernatural super-powerful weapon, earned \$4.4 million in its first week-

end in North America.

Long-running Hollywood fare, “Bullet Train” and “Top Gun: Maverick,” occupied the three and four spots.

“Bullet Train” has brought in \$92.5 million in six weeks and “Top Gun: Maverick” has earned \$705.7 million in 16 weeks. It now stands as the fifth highest-grossing domestic film of all time, just behind “Avatar” and just ahead of “Black Panther,” and is the biggest North American earner ever that is not part of a sci-fi or superhero franchise.

“This movie is putting down superhero numbers,” Dergarabedian said.

More quiet weeks likely lie ahead before a surge of expected big earners, including “Halloween Ends” and “Black Adam,” arrive in October.

Soon after that, the sequel “Black Panther: Wakanda For-

ever” kicks off the holiday box office season and an even bigger round of expectations.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. “Barbarian,” \$10 million.
2. “Brahmāstra Part One: Shiva,” \$4.4 million.
3. “Bullet Train,” \$3.25 million.
4. “Top Gun: Maverick,” \$3.2 million.
5. “DC League of Super-Pets,” \$2.8 million.
6. “The Invitation,” \$2.6 million.
7. “Lifemark,” \$2.2 million.
8. “Beast,” \$1.8 million.
9. “Minions: The Rise of Gru,” \$1.65 million.
10. “Spider-Man: No Way Home,” \$1.3 million.

Teen fears siblings’ bullying about her sexual orientation

DEAR ABBY: I am a teenage girl who has recently discovered I am bisexual. I told a few close friends, and I’m happy to say they have accepted me. Nothing has changed. I have not told any of my family yet. I know my parents will support me, but the problem is two of my four siblings. They constantly tease and taunt me, call me names and pick on me.

I have been raised to stand up to bullies, and I am mostly confident with myself. I have brought up their bullying to my parents a couple of times, but after discipline from my parents they keep doing it. They are clearly homophobic, and I know they will tease and pick on me even more if I come out to them.

I want to tell my parents, but I’m afraid it will inevitably lead to my siblings knowing. I don’t think if my younger siblings knew they would care, but they might be confused or weirded out since the concept is foreign to them.

Should I try to convince my parents not to say anything to my siblings until later? I don’t want to hide, but I don’t want to be pushed to depression, low self-esteem or worse if my vocal homophobic siblings know and chastise me about my sexual orientation.

NEW LGBTQ+ MEMBER

DEAR MEMBER: Your siblings are not necessarily “homophobic.” They may just get a kick out of making their younger sister uncomfortable, and whatever punishment

they receive is not sufficient to curb the problem. Whether your parents divulge it, your sexual orientation will become apparent sooner or later, so don’t bother hiding. You have friends and parents who support you. Handling negative comments from your immature sibs will give you the confidence to handle others in the future.

You may want to consider joining a LGBTQ-friendly youth group for additional support. Your parents can find ways to help you by contacting an organization called PFLAG (pflag.org). It’s the first and largest organization for LGBTQ people, their parents, families and allies. You are an intelligent teen who is in the process of discovering who you are, and for that I applaud you.

■■■■■

DEAR ABBY: Over the last year and a half, I’ve been in a relationship with someone I have known for a lifetime. He’s married but working on getting a divorce. He has promised we will do things together once everything is settled. There have been several recent deaths in his family, including a grandchild who was killed by a drunk driver.

Until a week ago we talked daily, when he told me he needed some time to think and get everything straight. I offered to return the things of his that I have. He said not to, and repeated that he just needed some time. His family has leaned on him for years. I’m sure he is overwhelmed. Should I wait and see what’s next or mend my heart and move on?

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



STANDING BY IN THE EAST

DEAR STANDING BY: As you are probably aware, I have printed many letters from women who were strung along far longer than two years. Back off. Give him six months to get his head and his life straight and to get that divorce filed. If nothing has changed by then, you will have devoted only two years of your life to the affair, and you should move on.

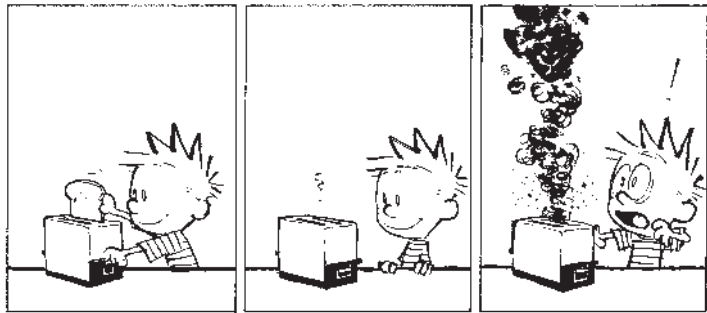
■■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



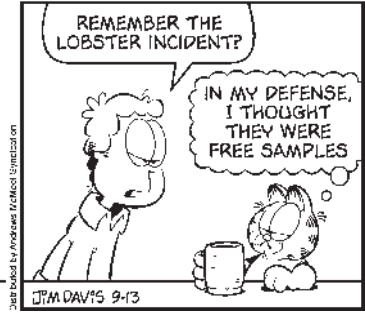
WHEN YOU THINK HOW WELL BASIC APPLIANCES WORK, IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE ANYONE EVER GETS ON AN AIRPLANE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

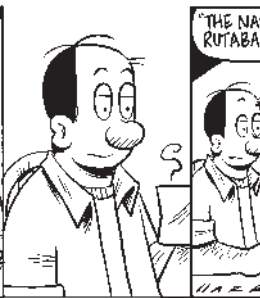
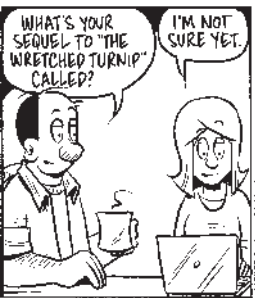


I'M GOING TO THE GROCERY STORE... BUT I'M NOT TAKING YOU



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



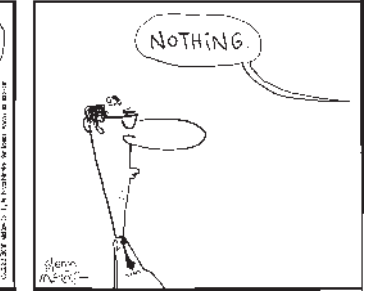
"THE NASTY RUTABAGA?" "ALREADY TAKEN. I GOOGLED IT."

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CAMINO. YOU'RE FIRED. I'VE FOUND A PHONE APP THAT CAN DO WHAT YOU DO.



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Pygmalion" writer

5 Grocery

9 Blue

12 Actress Skye

13 From the U.S.

14 Swiss canton

15 Provisional

17 Erin Burnett's channel

18 Morsels

19 French school

21 Speed reader?

24 Swiss artist Paul

25 Borodin's "Prince"

26 Remorseful

30 Hardly any

31 Loses color

32 Conk out

33 Octopus arm

35 Hair goops

36 Comic Jay

37 Ranch visitors

38 Salesperson's goal

40 Tiny amounts

42 Italian article

43 Able

48 Toss in

49 Historic times

50 Acknowledge

51 Coifs

52 First-rate

53 Actress Farmiga

4 Luxury hotel amenity

5 Actor Dillon

6 "Lucky Jim" author

7 Speed (up)

8 Vine-supporting frame

9 Came after

10 "Rule, Britannia!" composer

11 Eat in style

16 Vacuum's lack

20 Even so

21 Falling-out

22 Pulitzer winner James

23 File transfers

24 Elbow counter-part

26 Designer Rabanne

27 Right angle

28 Cleopatra's river

29 Hardy heroine

31 Cure-all

34 Hanoi holiday

35 Composer Mahler

37 HST follower

38 Campus area

39 Nullify

40 IRS enforcer

41 Church section

44 Acapulco gold

45 Cain's mom

46 Neither mate

47 Former Delta rival

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-13

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lili Reinhart, 26; Ben Savage, 42; Jean Smart, 71; Jacqueline Bisset, 78.

Happy Birthday: Think about what you want to convey to others and what you are trying to achieve this year. Call on people with something to contribute who can change the dynamics of a situation you face. Don't let anger set in when patience and understanding will bring about forgiveness and clarity. Take precautions to avoid injury, illness and personal loss. Your numbers are 8, 11, 20, 24, 32, 35, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll gain perspective regarding your relationships with others if you listen and establish what others want. Plan to do the work yourself, and you will gain respect and the option to delegate jobs to those willing and able to help. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Address disruption or confusion head-on. Hard work will help you clear a mental and physical passage to the place you want to go. You'll gain the most leverage if you mix business with pleasure and entertain the people you want to impress. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Wrap your head around what others expect of you, and don't stop until you feel satisfied with what you achieve. Someone who wants your attention will mislead you to get their way. Put your needs first and finish what you start. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Hang on to your cash, even if someone asks for a hand-out. Offer suggestions, but don't pay for others' mistakes. Consider your options and expand your interests. Heading in a direction that lets you

do something you enjoy is recommended. 2 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug 22): Put your emotions aside and concentrate on what's essential and will help you get ahead or get your way. Be receptive to suggestions, and follow through with plans that show promise. Establish the truth, and head in a direction that offers prosperity. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Finish your responsibilities. A disciplined attitude will attract the help you require to get things done on time. Don't be fooled by someone trying to tempt you with something you don't need. A positive physical change will lead to compliments and self-satisfaction. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): An open mind will take you to places that exhilarate you mentally, physically and emotionally. If you speed things up, you'll discover you can handle more than you anticipated. A change at home will make it possible to do something that makes you happy. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put more thought and cash into the things that bring you joy and put your mind at ease. Doing the work yourself will make you feel good and save money. A unique idea will change the way you do things. Romance is favored. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Anger won't make matters better. Analyze your situation and look for a practical way to move forward. Distance yourself from anyone who takes advantage of you or purposely leads you astray. A plan will turn into a prosperous venture. 3 stars

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Pursue your interests. Refuse to let anyone get in your way. Stick to the truth, and make changes based on facts and figures. Know your audience and play out your ideas as planned. Take control and leave nothing to chance. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Start a business or a hobby that excites you. Don't ignore someone you love because you are too busy working toward your own goal. Offer to share your dream, and you'll get support instead of a lecture. Nurture what's important to you. 2 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't share your secrets. Focus on personal change, quality of life and how you can lower your overhead or bring in more cash. Consider making partnerships, sharing expenses or embarking on a new and exciting adventure. Find a new outlet for an old skill. 4 stars

Birthday Baby: You are flexible, curious and enthusiastic. You are disciplined and stylish.

☺: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☺☺: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☺☺☺: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☺☺☺☺: Aim high; start new projects. ☺☺☺☺☺: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★

9/13

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

Difficulty Level ★

9/13

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO WHEEDLE Solution: 9 letters

COMPLIMENTMESEM
OARTFULMEETSLEE
N TLAMSI RAHCOTGP
V PACHOMAGEQUAEA
IML LUEFIFULRCTO
NEOO KLLDEAUITRS
CTVETZANTSONRUOT
ECIRDEZTTCDACOGF
NANUZETNICRTYEO
TPGLECETTTHOERS
IMEWESREVIGLWEM
CISFTUYINVITETO
EIFFOENGAGINGRO
ZEICAREZILATNAT
EGLORIFYENRALBH

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Artful, Attract, Barter, Blarney, Calculating, Care, Charisma, Compliment, Convince, Court, Dazzle, Delight, Effect, Eloquent, Encourage, Engaging, Entice, Fancy, Feel, Flattery, Gifts, Give, Glorify, Guile, Homage, Impact, Invite, Loving, Lure, Meets, Nice, Plot, Salute, Smooth, Soap, Soothing, Sweet, Talk, Tantalize, Tempt, Words

Yesterday's Answer: Purple

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 56 through 70, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Brady, Bucs beat Cowboys 19-3; Prescott out with hand injury



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Tom Brady and Mike Evans connected on a punctuating touchdown, Leonard Fournette ran for 127 yards, and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers dominated the Cowboys 19-3 Sunday night while Dallas quarterback Dak Prescott departed with a hand injury.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said after the game that Prescott needs surgery on his throwing hand and will miss multiple weeks, a season-altering blow to a team that won the NFC East last year.

A rough night for Prescott got worse after his right hand struck a defender when throwing a pass in the fourth quarter. He was checked on the sideline before jogging to the locker room.

Brady was in control throughout the first start for a 45-year-old quarterback in NFL history. The seven-time Super Bowl champ got a big assist from the defense in Todd Bowles' debut as Tampa Bay's coach following three seasons as defensive coordinator.

Dallas drove 54 yards to a field goal on the first possession, but didn't score again while finishing with its second-fewest points in an opener.

Julio Jones had a 48-yard catch in the two-time All-Pro's Tampa Bay debut to set up one of four first-half field goals from Ryan Succop, who had five attempts before the break without a punt from the Bucs.

Brady, who improved to 7-0 against the Cowboys, was 18 of 17 for 212 yards with an interception. Prescott finished 14 of 29 for 134 yards with an interception.

Steelers 23, Bengals 20, OT

In Cincinnati, Chris Boswell kicked a 53-yard field goal as time expired in overtime and Pittsburgh overcame T.J. Watt's injury late in the fourth quarter to beat Cincinnati in a sloppy season opener for both teams.

Watt had one of four interceptions off Joe Burrow, who rebounded from a lousy start and rallied Cincinnati from a 17-6 halftime deficit. His 6-yard touchdown pass to Ja'Marr Chase tied it at 20 with 2 seconds left in regulation, but the game went to overtime after Minkah Fitzpatrick blocked Evan McPherson's point-after try.

McPherson and Boswell missed potential winning field goals in overtime before Steelers quarterback Mitch Trubisky completed passes of 9, 26 and 10 yards



Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady warms up before a NFL football game against the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington, Texas, Sunday, Sept. 11, 2022.

in the final 56 seconds.

Saints 27, Falcons 26

In Atlanta, Wil Lutz kicked a 51-yard field goal with 19 seconds remaining to cap a stunning fourth-quarter comeback by New Orleans, which overcame a 16-point deficit to beat Atlanta in coach Dennis Allen's debut.

After struggling offensively through most of the season opener, Jamies Winston guided the Saints to three straight scoring drives. The first two ended with touchdown passes of 3 and 9 yards to Michael Thomas. The Saints converted one 2-point try, but failed on the other.

New Orleans got the ball back one more time, taking over at its own 20 with 48 seconds remaining and no timeouts. Winston connected on a 40-yard pass to Jarvis Landry and a 17-yarder to Juwan Johnson to set up Lutz's winning field goal.

A personal foul on the Saints gave the Falcons a chance to pull out the victory, but Youngbow Koo's 63-yard field goal attempt was blocked as the clock ran out.

Browns 26, Panthers 24

In Charlotte, N.C., rookie Cade York kicked a go-ahead 58-yard field goal with 8 seconds left, Kareem Hunt scored two touchdowns and Cleveland spoiled Baker Mayfield's bid for vengeance by beating Carolina.

Nick Chubb ran for 141 yards and Hunt had 70 total yards from scrimmage as the Browns won their season opener for the first time since 2004.

Mayfield overcame a slow start by leading the Panthers back from a 13-point fourth quarter deficit by running for a 7-yard touchdown and finding Robbie Anderson for a

75-yard touchdown strike. He then led the Panthers on a 64-yard drive in seven plays to set up Eddy Pineiro's go-ahead field goal with 1:13 left in the game.

Chargers 24, Raiders 19

In Inglewood, Calif., Justin Herbert threw for 279 yards and three touchdowns, Khalil Mack had three sacks in his Chargers debut and Los Angeles defeated Las Vegas to spoil Josh McDaniels' first game as head coach.

The game was a rematch of last season's finale, which Las Vegas won on a field goal in the final seconds of overtime to knock the Chargers out of a playoff spot.

Herbert completed 26 of 34 passes and had a 129.4 passer rating despite Keenan Allen leaving with a hamstring injury in the first half and Mike Williams not having a catch until the fourth quarter.

Ravens 24, Jets 9

In East Rutherford, N.J., Lamar Jackson threw three touchdown passes, including two to Devin Duvernay, and Baltimore rolled past New York.

Jackson went 17 of 30 for 213 yards, including a TD to Rashod Bateman, and an interception. The performance came hours after ESPN reported that Jackson turned down a five-year extension offer worth more than \$250 million.

Joe Flacco, starting against the team whom he helped win a Super Bowl, was ineffective and wasn't helped by a few drops and lousy pass protection. He went 37 of 59 for 307 yards and a touchdown and interception.

Commanders 28, Jaguars 22

In Landover, Md., Carson Wentz bounced back from

throwing interceptions on consecutive plays early in the fourth quarter, completing his third and fourth touchdowns to give Washington a comeback victory against Jacksonville.

It was his first four-TD game since the day he tore the ACL in his left knee while with the Philadelphia Eagles in 2017. And it came with former Eagles coach Doug Pederson on the sideline in charge of the Jaguars for the first time.

Wentz finished 27 of 41 for 313 yards.

Chiefs 44, Cardinals 21

In Phoenix, Patrick Mahomes threw for 360 yards and five touchdowns, lifting Kansas City to an impressive road win over Arizona.

The game was never in doubt after the opening minutes, with Mahomes picking apart the Cardinals' defense with his usual array of good decisions and deft passing touch. The quarterback was playing his first NFL game against Kliff Kingsbury, who coached Mahomes in college at Texas Tech and now leads the Cardinals.

The 2018 MVP threw three touchdown passes on Kansas City's first three drives. Tight end Travis Kelce caught eight passes for 121 yards and a touchdown. It was his 30th career game with at least 100 yards receiving. Clyde Edwards-Helaire hauled in two touchdown passes.

Kansas City outgained Arizona 488 yards to 282. Mahomes completed 30 of 39 passes.

Vikings 23, Packers 7

In Minneapolis, Justin Jefferson started his third season with Minnesota by smashing rival Green Bay for 184 receiving yards and two touchdowns, giving new coach Kevin O'Connell his

first victory.

After accumulating the most receiving yards (3,016) in a player's first two years in the NFL, Jefferson set an all-time Vikings receiving record with 158 yards in the first half against a stacked Packers defense.

Kirk Cousins completed 23 of 32 passes for 277 yards without a turnover, targeting Jefferson on more than a third of his throws and keeping the Packers on their heels for most of the afternoon.

Eagles 38, Lions 35

In Detroit, Jalen Hurts accounted for 333 yards and a touchdown and A.J. Brown had a career-high-tying 155 yards receiving in his Philadelphia debut, a win over Detroit.

The Eagles scored 24 points in the second quarter and had a 17-point lead in the fourth that was cut to three when Jared Goff threw a 22-yard touchdown pass to DJ Chark with 3:51 left.

Philadelphia sealed the win with Miles Sanders' 24-yard run on third-and-2 from the Eagles 27 just before the two-minute warning and Hurts' sneak that converted a fourth-and-1 from the Detroit 40 with 50 seconds left.

Sanders finished with 96 yards rushing and was one of three Philadelphia running backs to score.

Dolphins 20, Patriots 7

In Miami Gardens, Fla., Tua Tagovailoa passed for 270 yards and a touchdown and Miami provided an early look at its ability to contend in the AFC East by beating Bill Belichick and New England.

Second-year receiver Jaylen Waddle scored the Dolphins' first offensive touchdown of the 2022 season, taking a fourth-down pass from Tagovailoa into the end zone for a 42-yard score. Waddle caught four passes for 69 yards.

Tyreek Hill, making his Miami Dolphins debut after the team traded for him during the offseason, led Miami's receivers with eight receptions for 94 yards.

Patriots second-year quarterback Mac Jones threw for 213 yards with a touchdown and interception. Running back Ty Montgomery caught the Patriots' only touchdown of the game. Damien Harris led New England's rushers with 48 yards on nine carries.

Giants 21, Titans 20

In Nashville, Tenn., Daniel Jones hit Chris Myrick for a 1-yard touchdown pass, then found Saquon Barkley on a shovel pass for the 2-point

conversion with 1:06 left against Tennessee, making New York's new coach Brian Daboll a winner in his coaching debut.

Daboll didn't hesitate to keep his offense on the field for the 2-point conversion, which snapped the Giants' skid of five straight losses in season openers.

The Titans, the AFC's No. 1 seed with a 12-5 record a year ago, had a chance to win as time expired. But Randy Bullock pushed a 47-yard field goal wide left after making two field goals earlier against one of his former teams.

Colts 20, Texans 20, OT

In Houston, Matt Ryan rallied Indianapolis in the fourth quarter to force overtime against Houston in his Colts debut, but neither team could score on two overtime possessions each.

The Texans led 20-3 entering the fourth quarter in coach Lovie Smith's debut, but Ryan led three successive scoring drives, culminating with his 15-yard touchdown pass to Michael Pittman with 1:54 remaining.

Indianapolis got the ball back with 1:19 left in regulation but was forced to punt — a sign of things to come in the extra period.

Ryan, playing his first game for Indy after 14 seasons with Atlanta, finished with 352 yards passing and a touchdown. Rushing champion Jonathan Taylor finished with 161 yards and a touchdown.

Bears 19, 49ers 10

In Chicago, Justin Fields threw for two second-half touchdowns, Eddie Jackson set up a TD with an interception and Chicago gave Matt Eberflus a win in his head coaching debut, beating San Francisco.

Fields shook off a rough first half, throwing a 51-yard TD to Dante Pettis in the third quarter and connecting with Equanimeous St. Brown for an 18-yarder early in the fourth to put Chicago on top 13-10. Jackson then picked off Trey Lance near midfield for his first interception since 2019 and returned the ball to the 21. That led to a 6-yard touchdown run by Khalil Herbert, making it 19-10.

The Bears got called for an unusual penalty near the end of the first half, when their holder got flagged for bringing out a towel to dry a small area of the field ahead of a field goal try. The 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalty wiped out a scoring opportunity and forced Chicago to punt.

Pujols cements place in history with HR No. 697



PITTSBURGH
(AP)—Al-

bert Pujols hit his 697th home run, moving past Alex Rodriguez into fourth place on the career list and doing it in dramatic fashion with a ninth-inning drive that pushed the St. Louis Cardinals over the Pittsburgh Pirates 4-3 Sunday.

The NL Central-leading Cardinals trailed 2-1 when Pujols connected for a two-run shot. He trails Barry Bonds (762), Hank Aaron (755) and Babe Ruth (714) on the all-time homer chart. The 42-year-old Pujols has 21 games left in his 22nd and final season in the big leagues.

The Cardinals went to the ninth inning trailing 2-0 but scored four runs off Chase DeJong (4-2). Tommy Edman and Corey Dickerson led off with back-to-back doubles to produce the first run. One out after Pujols connected, Tyler O'Neil hit a solo shot to cap St. Louis' big inning.

Ryan Helsley then got Ben Gamel to fly out for his 16th save. Chris Stratton (8-4) retired both batters he faced.

Dodgers 11, Padres 2

In San Diego, Justin Turner hit a grand slam and a solo homer for Los Angeles, which emphatically became the first team to clinch a playoff spot this season by beating rival San Diego.

Los Angeles, with the best record in the majors at 96-43, sealed a playoff berth for the 10th straight season. The Dodgers' magic number to win the NL West is two.

Max Muncy hit a go-ahead, two-run, bases-loaded single in the sixth inning and Chris Taylor and Trea Turner also homered for the Dodgers, who won their eighth straight series against the Padres dating to June 2021.

Padres All-Star right-hander Joe Musgrove (9-7) had a 2-0 lead after three innings before Justin Turner homered to left with one out in the fifth and Taylor homered to center with two outs.

Andrew Heaney (3-2) allowed two runs, one earned, and three hits in five innings. He struck out six and walked two.

Mariners 8, Braves 7

In Seattle, Julio Rodriguez and Eugenio Suarez each hit their second home run of the game, connecting in the ninth inning and rallying Seattle over Atlanta.

The Braves trailed 6-2 going into the ninth, but Michael Harris II and Rob-

bie Grossman hit two-out homers during a five-run comeback.

Down 7-6, the Mariners tied it when Rodriguez hit his 25th home run with one out off Kenley Jansen (5-2). With two outs, Suarez hit his 30th homer to win it.

Astros 12, Angels 4

In Houston, Alex Bregman and Trey Mancini hit two of Houston's five home runs, and the AL West-leading Astros beat Los Angeles for their 90th win of the season.

Trailing 3-0, the Astros rallied for five runs in the third. Mauricio Dubón led off the inning with a solo home run, and after Tucker Davidson (2-6) hit Yordan Alvarez to load the bases, Davidson was replaced by Mike Mayers, who Bregman greeted with his grand slam to right-center.

Shohei Ohtani hit his 34th home run of the season in the first, a two-run shot to right. Mike Trout, who has homered in a club record six straight games, was given the day off.

Mets 9, Marlins 3

In Miami, Brandon Nimmo homered, doubled and walked twice to help New York top Miami and maintain its slim lead atop the NL East.

Tómas Nido had three hits and drove in three runs for the Mets. Pitcher Max Scherzer, who is on the injured list but accompanied the team to Florida, was ejected by second base umpire Chad Fairchild after Nimmo had a triple negated in the first at-bat of the game.

Taijuan Walker (11-4) won his fourth decision against the Marlins this season, throwing seven innings of one-run ball. The right-hander scattered five hits and struck out 10.

Jeff McNeil had three hits and Eduardo Escobar hit his 18th homer for New York, which improved to 46-22 against the NL East.

Miami's Brian Anderson homered twice.

Yankees 10, Rays 4

In New York, Gleyber Torres homered twice and Giancarlo Stanton and Oswaldo Cabrera once each during a 10-run barrage in the first two innings and New York again routed Tampa Bay to reopen a 5 1/2-game AL East lead.

Ten of New York's first 14 batters reached, with Torres hitting a three-run homer in the first and a solo drive in the second, both off Luis Patiño (1-2). New York built a 10-1 lead with a seven-run second



St. Louis Cardinals' Albert Pujols (5) rounds third to greetings from third base coach Ron 'Pop' Warner after hitting a two-run home run off Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher JT Brubaker during the sixth inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Saturday, Sept. 10, 2022.

inning and took two of three to finish a 5-2 homestand.

Wandy Peralta (3-4), the third of eight pitchers, allowed one hit over 2 1/3 innings.

Guardians 4, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, Andrés Giménez and Steven Kwan hit solo homers, Shane Bieber had another strong start and Cleveland finished off a sweep of Minnesota.

Bieber (10-8) went 6 1/3 innings, allowing five hits and one run while striking out seven. Bieber has allowed more than two runs just once in his last nine starts. James Karinchak walked a pair of batters in the ninth inning but struck out three to earn his second save.

Cleveland had lost nine of its previous 13 games but still held a 1 1/2 game lead over Minnesota in the American League Central entering the series. The Guardians strengthened their position and the Twins have lost nine of 11 and are in third place, 4 1/2 games back.

Phillies 7, Nationals 5

In Philadelphia, Alec Bohm hit the go-ahead, two-run homer in the seventh inning to lead Philadelphia over Washington. The game had a 3.5-hour rain delay.

Bohm raised his right arm and pointed toward the clear sky after his 11th homer of the season sailed into the right-field seats for a 7-5 lead. Rhys Hoskins hit a three-run homer for the Phillies and had four RBIs.

The delay came with the Phillies leading 1-0 through two innings. The Phillies kept their hold on the second NL wild-card spot.

Brewers 7, Reds 6

In Milwaukee, Rowdy Tellez

homered twice, doubled and drove in four runs as Milwaukee withstood a ninth-inning comeback by Cincinnati.

Willy Adames and Tellez hit back-to-back homers off Reds starter Justin Dunn (1-3) in the Brewers' four-run second inning. Tellez added a solo shot off Luke Farrell in the fourth inning for his 30th homer of the season.

Adames needs just one more homer to match the single-season record for a Brewers shortstop.

Brewers center fielder Garrett Mitchell made a diving catch of a TJ Friedl fly ball in the ninth inning that prevented the Reds from tying the game.

Cincinnati's Alejo López went 3 for 3 with his first career homer and a double. The Reds trailed 7-2 through six innings but nearly came all the way back.

Rangers 4, Blue Jays 1

In Arlington, Texas, Martin Perez allowed one run in six innings, Adolis Garcia homered for the second consecutive game and Texas beat Toronto.

The Blue Jays head home following an 8-2 trip to play five games in four days against another AL wild-card team, Tampa Bay. The Rangers, meanwhile, snapped a three-game losing streak.

Perez (11-6) ended a personal two-game losing streak, which equaled his longest of the season. He gave up six hits, struck out seven and walked two. Jose Leclerc pitched a scoreless ninth inning for his fourth save in four chances.

Garcia launched a fastball down the left-field line into the second deck off Yusei Kikuchi — the fifth time this

season that he has homered in consecutive games.

Leody Taveras hit a solo homer for Texas in the eighth inning.

Diamondbacks 12, Rockies 6

In Denver, Zac Gallen retired the first nine batters he faced to extend his scoreless innings streak to 44 1/3 innings, seventh longest in MLB history, and Arizona beat Colorado.

Gallen (12-2) struck out 11 in six innings to win for the seventh time in his last eight starts. He passed Brandon Webb with a scoreless first inning to set the franchise record at 42 1/3 innings; Webb's mark came in 2007.

Athletics 10, White Sox 3

In Oakland, Calif., Ramón Laureano hit a two-run homer and Vimal Machin hit a two-run double in the decisive fifth inning to back Cole Irvin's second straight win, and Oakland beat Chicago to snap a five-game losing streak.

Machin delivered in the A's six-run sixth moments after a tying single by Tony Kemp, who homered in the sixth. Seth Brown hit an RBI double in the first against Johnny Cueto (7-8) lost for the first time in six career starts against Oakland.

Irvin (8-11) allowed three runs — two earned — on four hits, struck out five and walked two over seven impressive innings.

Royals 4, Tigers 0

In Kansas City, Mo., Brady Singer threw seven shut-out innings to lead Kansas City over Detroit and salvage the finale of the three-

game series.

Singer (8-4) allowed four hits and one walk, striking out six and retiring 16 of the last 18 batters he faced. The Royals have won six of his last seven starts; he is 4-0 with a 2.25 ERA over that span.

Bobby Witt Jr. had a pair of hits, including a double, his 51st extra-base hit that leads all major league rookies.

Detroit starter Tyler Alexander (3-10) went five innings, allowing four runs on six hits and a walk.

Red Sox 1, Orioles 0

In Baltimore, Rich Hill pitched five scoreless innings, and Boston defeated a fading Baltimore team.

The Orioles have lost six of eight, all at home, including back-to-back games to the last-place Red Sox. Baltimore was 1 1/2 games out of the third and final AL wild-card spot entering Sept. 4, but will begin a five-game road trip at least five games out of the playoffs.

Every hit in the game was a single; Boston got four and the Orioles had three.

Hill (7-6) allowed two hits, walking three while striking out seven. Matt Barnes worked a perfect ninth to earn his fifth save.

The Red Sox manufactured their run in the first when Tommy Pham singled, stole second, moved to third on a grounder and scored on Xander Bogaerts' sacrifice fly. It was all they would muster against Baltimore starter Kyle Bradish (3-6) through seven innings.

Giants 4, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Thairo Estrada homered in the seventh, Wilmer Flores connected in the eighth and San Francisco held on to beat Chicago.

The Giants kept the Cubs' offense in check while using six pitchers on a bullpen day, though Zach McKinstry had four hits for the Cubs, who have dropped 15 of 21.

Estrada, Evan Longoria and Austin Dean had two hits each for the Giants, who had lost five of six.

Flores hit a two-run shot off Hayden Wesneski (1-1) after Lewis Brinson walked for his 18th homer of the season, matching a career high and snapping an 0-for-19 skid. Estrada's homer ended Wesneski's streak of six scoreless innings to begin his major league career.

Seiya Suzuki homered off Scott Alexander in the eighth to pull the Cubs within 4-2.

The Giants' Zack Littell (3-3) threw 1 2/3 shutout innings to earn the victory.

Carlos Alcaraz wins US Open for 1st Slam title, top ranking

NEW YORK (AP)—Walking out for his first Grand Slam final at age 19, Carlos Alcaraz bumped fists with fans leaning over a railing along the path leading to the Arthur Ashe Stadium court. Moments later, after the coin toss, Alcaraz turned to sprint to the baseline for the warmup, until being beckoned back to the net by the chair umpire for the customary pre-match photos.

Alcaraz is imbued with boundless enthusiasm and energy, not to mention skill, speed, stamina and sangfroid. And now he's a U.S. Open champion and the No. 1 player in men's tennis.

Using his uncommon combination of moxie and maturity, Alcaraz beat Casper Ruud 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (1), 6-3 on Sunday to both earn the trophy at Flushing Meadows and become the youngest man to lead the ATP rankings.

"Everything came so fast. For me it's unbelievable. It's something I dreamed since I was a kid, since I started playing tennis," said Alcaraz, whom folks of a certain age might still consider a kid.

"Of course," he said, "I'm hungry for more."

Alcaraz, who will move up three ranking spots from No. 4 on Monday, already has attracted plenty of attention as someone considered the Next Big Thing in a sport dominated for decades by the Big Three of Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer.

"He's one of these few rare talents that comes up every now and then in sports. That's what it seems like," said Ruud, a 23-year-old from Norway. "Let's see how his career develops, but it's going all in the right direction."

The Spaniard was serenaded by choruses of "Olé, Olé, Olé! Carlos!" that reverberated off the arena's closed roof — and Alcaraz often motioned for the spectators to get louder. There were a couple of magical points that drew standing ovations, including one Alcaraz lost with a laser of an on-the-run forehand while ending up face-down on his belly.

He only briefly showed signs of fatigue from having to get through three consecutive five-setters in the three rounds right before the final; no one had gone through that arduous a route on the way to the title in New York in 30 years.



Carlos Alcaraz, of Spain, holds up the championship trophy after defeating Casper Ruud, of Norway, in the men's singles final of the U.S. Open tennis championships, Sunday, Sept. 11, 2022, in New York.

Alcaraz went five sets against 2014 U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic in the fourth round, ending at 2:23 a.m. Tuesday; against Jannik Sinner in the quarterfinals, a 5-hour, 15-minute thriller that ended at 2:50 a.m. Friday after Alcaraz needed to save a match point; and against Frances Tiafoe in the semifinals.

"It's not time to be tired," Alcaraz said.

This was not a stroll to the finish. He faced a pair of set

points while down 6-5 in the third. Could have been an outcome-altering moment.

But Alcaraz erased each of those point-from-the-set opportunities for Ruud with the sorts of quick-reflex, soft-hand volleys he repeatedly displayed.

"He just played too good on those points. We've seen it many times before: He steps up when he needs to," Ruud said. "When it's close, he pulls out great shots."

One break in the fourth was

BILLIE

From Page 20

Pangelinan dedicated her 2022 MRA Rider of the Year award to her brother Corry and coach Ellery Cruz.

"They've made me the rider and the person I am today. I am so thankful I had them throughout my motocross career. Without them, I wouldn't be who I am today. I do want to also send my thanks to my family, friends, and fans! Thank you all for taking the time to come and support me and my team out on the track!"

She also extended her heartfelt kudos to her sponsors Ericco Racing Team, Pokka (MarPac), Marianas Native, Joeten Motors Co.,

YCO True Value Hardware, Herman's Bakery, and 4evercnmi.

MRA president Charles Cepeda said it's always an honor to select the Rider of the Year the past two seasons of the Monster Energy Point Series.

"This year is a bit tougher and not as clear-cut as the dominance of our Rider of the Year last year, Theresa Borja. Once again, I congratulate Theresa for having such a fantastic year last year and for having a valiant year this year."

He said Pangelinan has shown improvement, determination, and grit in racing this past season and that's why she's the 2022 Rider of the Year.

"She's shown improvement from last year in both

riding skills and bike maintenance. She's also shown determination by lining up at the starting gate and making sure everything is prepped for the best start."

However, aside from her aptitude in conquering the course and making sure her Honda CRF150R is always in tip-top shape, Pangelinan also earned Cepeda's nod for how she conducts herself in the presence of other riders.

"This year's Rider of the Year you see her walking around the pits always smiling as she greets everyone. She fits right in with others. I sometimes see her on top of fellow racers at every tent. But as soon as she gets to the starting gate, that determination and posture shifts. These same fellow racers in the pits

turn into a true rivalry at the starting gates, and her posture is focused on being a winner on the track. She has truly become one of the inspirations for what MRA is all about—family and friends racing in Cowtown," said Cepeda.

For the record, Pangelinan won the Power Puff Girls Class' No. 1 plaque after accumulating 337 points during the season. Nanako Celis finished second with 314 points with Shaniah Alvarez completing the Top 3 with 222 points. She also finished sixth overall in the Mini II Class for the 2022 season with 208 points.

Winners of the other classes of the 2022 Monster Energy Point Series will be published in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

WRESTLING

From Page 20

in youth wrestling.

He is passionate about wrestling and about getting back the CNMI's interest in wrestling for inter-island competitions and off-island competitions such as the Pacific Games.

When he found out that wrestling was not offered on the island, he said "[he] would love to see something offered here for my kids... and I would be interested in

helping that build back up and coaching... because it's a sport that I think would be great for the island," he said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

"As I started meeting people, I went to Trench Tech Gym. I'm friends with Cuki [Alvarez] and I help coach a class there for MMA kids on Saturdays... So again, I have a fighting background, but wrestling is hands down my forte, but when I found out there was no wrestling here, Cuki told me that there used to be something so he

put me in touch with Jason Tarkong".

From there, over the last year and a half, himself and Tarkong "have been working on reestablishing and getting NMWF back into standard, which as of last month, we got our business license back in good standing and we just got a couple other small things to check the box and we're back where we need to be."

They are also currently identifying locations for a wrestling facility and getting wrestling mats.

With the mats, according to

Bauer, "they're 2-inch thick, because they have to be soft enough to land hard on and still be okay... Wrestling mats are designed to take falls and hard takedowns, so they have to be thicker and more protective to that point, they're not cheap. I'm currently hoping that we can eventually get funding to get two of those."

Wrestling, an ancient and modern day Olympic sport, has two events—freestyle and Greco-Roman—and many medals are at stake in every competition, as it has different weight classes. It is

all it took for Alcaraz to seal the victory in the only Grand Slam final between two players seeking both a first major championship and the top spot in the ATP's computerized rankings, which date to 1973.

The winner was guaranteed to be first in Monday's rankings; the loser was guaranteed to be second.

"We knew what was at stake," said Ruud, who entered the U.S. Open ranked No. 7. "I'm disappointed, of course, that I'm not No. 1, but No. 2 is not too bad, either."

He also was the runner-up to Nadal at the French Open in June.

If nothing else, Ruud gets the sportsmanship award for conceding a point he knew he didn't deserve. It came at 4-3

in the first set, when he raced to a short ball that bounced twice before his racket touched it. Play continued, and Alcaraz hesitated, then flubbed his response. Ruud told the chair umpire what had happened, giving the point to Alcaraz, who responded with a thumbs-up.

Alcaraz certainly seems to be a rare talent, possessing an all-court game, a blend of groundstroke power with a willingness to push forward. He won 34 of the 45 points that he finished at the net.

He is increasingly a threat while serving — he delivered 14 aces at up to 128 mph — and returning, earning 11 break points, converting three.

And, as Ruud noted, Alcaraz showed "incredible fighting spirit and will to win."

AGAPE

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the gold and the bronze, Agape overtook us in team points. We are definitely looking forward to a revenge match at the championships! But I am very proud of all the girls. It was an amazing effort and they are really starting to come together. I will be very happy to present Kaithlyn and Tiana with their medals and expect amazing things to come from both of them as well as the rest of the girls," said SIS headmaster Dr. Ron Snyder on SIS' performance.

"SIS did come out on top in the elementary divisions and I am very happy that coach [Kathy] Ruzsala is still coaching with us this year. This ensures a strong program for years to come," added Snyder.

In the boys 1-mile elementary school division, SIS came in first place, ACS was second, and Oleai Elementary School came in third place. Reyviel Escarlan from ACS came in with a time of 6:19, SIS' Jude Rayphand came in at 6:35, and SIS' Quido Jambor came in at 6:41.

In the girls 1-mile elementary school division, SIS topped

it with 18 points, followed by OES at 58 points with ACS coming in third with 69 points. San Vicente Elementary School had 70 points and Brilliant Star School had 78 points. Lovel Spaeth of BSS came in gold with the time of 7:15, followed by Kaylen Ruth Taflinger with 7:16, and SIS' Leilani Ruzsala with 7:17.

The middle school boys course was dominated by ASC with 25 points, followed by SIS with 38 points, and GCA with 40 points. Michael Miller from GCA took the gold with a time of 12:42, followed by Landen Taflinger of DanDan Middle School at 13:13, and Daniel Song from ASC with 13:38.

Finally, the middle school girls were ruled by ASC as well with 16 points, followed by SIS with 23 points, and SCS with 41 points.

This year's cross country season went off with a bang, bringing in 426 registrants in the All Schools Division.

A total of 200 registered for the open and fun run division, for a total of 626 overall registrants for this year's Gecko 5000, making this the biggest event yet.

The Gecko 5000 was organized by SIS with help from Northern Marianas Athletics and Run Saipan.

a combat sport that has grappling, takedowns, and joint locks as techniques.

It is one of the programs offered in the Pacific Games and Micronesian Games, in which the CNMI won five of the 42 medals at stake in wrestling in the 2006 Micronesian Games. That was the last time the sport took place in the Commonwealth.

Interest in wrestling died down after that and Bauer wants to change things and bring back the sport in the CNMI's consciousness.

Bauer then appealed to

the CNMI community and said he is "looking forward to hear from anyone interested"—parents who would like their children to take up wrestling, adults who would like to learn more and join, anyone with a background or experience with wrestling or coaching wrestling, or anyone who would like to learn more and offer help to the federation, to email cnmiwrestling@gmail.com and follow them on their Facebook page at Northern Marianas Wrestling Federation for updates.



Brady, Bucs beat
Cowboys 19-3;
Prescott out with
hand injury
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Carlos Alcaraz
wins US Open for
1st Slam title, top
ranking
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20 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Billie is MRA's Rider of the Year



MARK RABAGO

Billie Inabo Pangelinan proudly holds up her 2022 Rider of the Year plaque during the Marianas Racing Association 2022 Monster Energy Point Series awards banquet last Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan. She is joined on stage by MRA officials, led by president Charles Cepeda, and her family.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Billie Inabo Pangelinan was awarded the coveted Marianas Racing Association Rider of the Year plaque during the 2022 Monster Energy Point Series awards banquet last Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

The 13-year-old student from Dandan Middle School was emotional as she accepted the award from MRA president Charles Cepeda with tears of joy.



and also raced in the Mini II Class, admitted she's still in shock a day after winning the most prestigious award from the island's motocross club.

"I had many emotions. I was really surprised. I was numb too and I froze. I was so, so happy I couldn't believe I was the Rider of the Year! Everyone's support that night made me feel so happy and delighted!" she added.

The younger Pangelinan, who was the top point-getter in the Power Puff Girls Class

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Agape HS teams top Gecko 5000

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

The Torchbearers ruled both the boys and girls cross country course in the Gecko 5000 race held last Saturday at Banzai Cliff.

The Torchbearers' boys high school cross country

team garnered 11 points, ranking first among five other high schools which included Saipan International School, Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Grace Christian Academy, and Mount Carmel School.



ACS' very own Samuel Zhu led the way with a time of 19:47 followed by school-mate Jiaeh Wang's 20:21. Pony Tang from MHS was right behind at 20:25.

SIS came in second place, with 60 points, MHS came in third with 71 points, SSHS

came in fourth with 72 points, GCA was fifth with 73 points, and MCS was last with 79 points.

In the high school girls cross country race, while SIS took the gold, (Kaithlyn Chavez at 22:23) and bronze (Tiana Cabrera at 23:39), cross country is a team sport with ACS overtaking them in team points, thus winning the girls race with 17 points, and SIS taking second with 23. Eunice Xu of ACS came in with the silver with a time of 23:08.

Pastor Jimeian Pang said this about their school's teams' wins, "the hard work paid off. I think you reap what you sow and we thank God for that. The students are new this year—they came in half a year [ago] and have great potential and they are willing to run. I believe there are many runners in all the schools with potential. It's only a matter of training."

"Cross Country is a team sport. So, while SIS took both

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LAO ZHANG

Samuel Zhu of Agape Christian School crosses the finish line first in the high school boys cross country division of the Gecko 5000 last Saturday in Marpi.

Wrestling federation making a comeback

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Wrestling is making a comeback after years of being dormant in the CNMI.

Rick Bauer and Jason Tarkong are spearheading the Northern Marianas Wrestling Federation, with Bauer the vice president and head coach, and Tarkong the president of the board. Kerri Bauer is the treasurer and Heather Calderwell will do admin-



istrative work for the board.

Rick Bauer, a federal employee who moved to Saipan with his family three years ago from the East Coast, was an avid wrestler

in his youth. He started wrestling when he was 6 years old, wrestled in NCAA Division I for

Rider University in Pennsylvania, graduated and coached high school wrestling, then coached for his son's team and assisted

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LEIGH GASES

From left, Northern Marianas Wrestling Federation board president Jason Tarkong, treasurer Kerri Bauer, and vice president and head coach Rick Bauer.